The Shakerite

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look AHEAD

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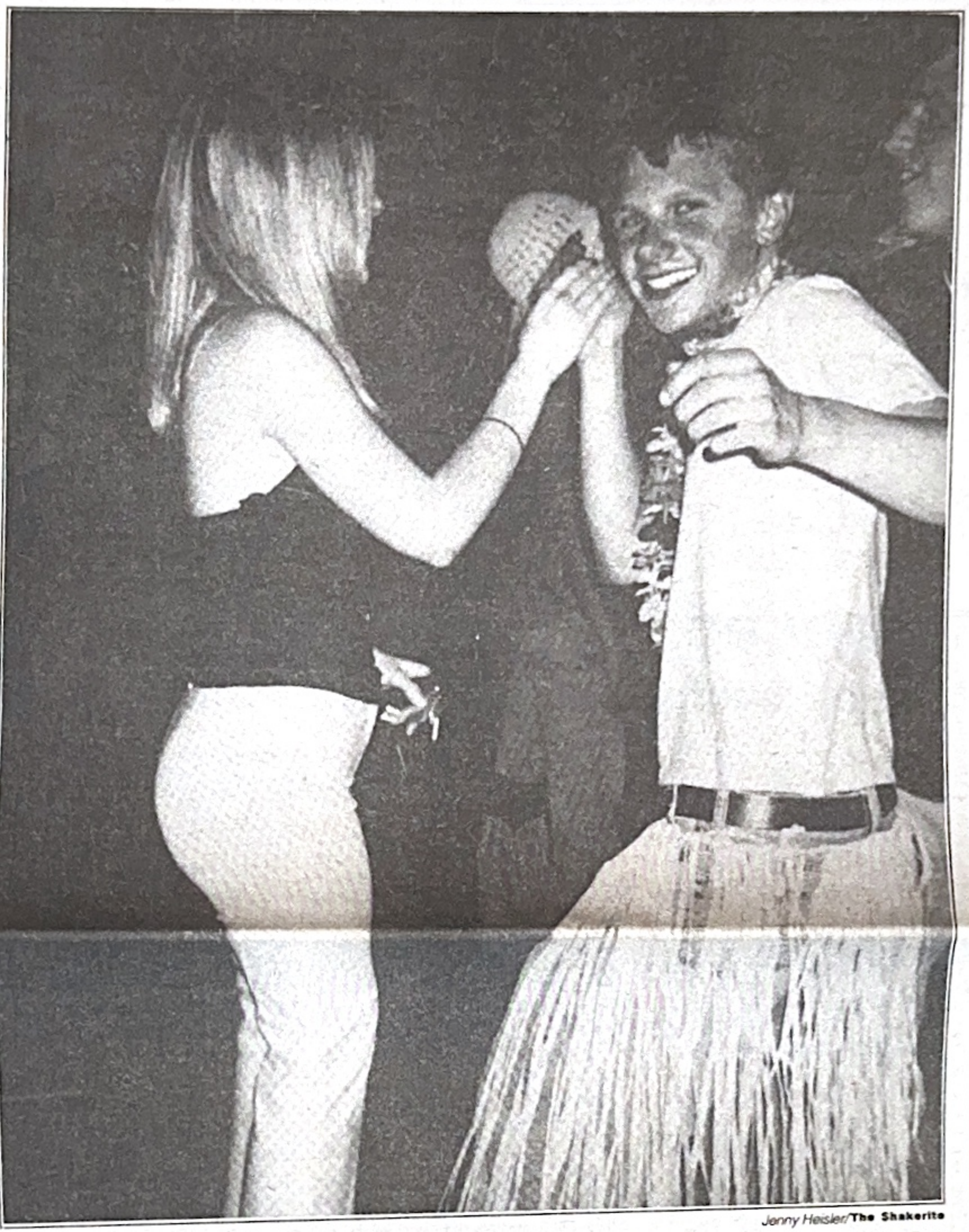


Jenny Heisler/The Shakerite

Senior Jordan Klimek grooves on the dance floor at the spring dance. With a "Paradise Island" theme, the dance marked the first spring dance held since 1998. Both male and female students sported grass skirts and leis.

Teacher shortage hits home

• 17 departures post challenges for hiring

By Jeff Greenwald
Staff reporter

With 17 high school faculty members planning to retire or leave the district at the conclusion of the school year, the widely publicized national teacher shortage is beginning to hit home.

Director of Personnel William Trost said that the search for replacements is already well under way. The two biggest hiring months, May and June, are coming up and the new staff should soon begin to take shape.

Among the retirees are two counselors, Robert Annandale and Andrée Sajous. The news of counselors retiring has shocked and worried many students who will soon be entering a key phase of high school: applying for college.

> ***"It's kinda bad cause I've got to start all over with a new counselor."***
>
> **SEAN BRAKEY**
> junior

"I am really confident they will be able to hire very competent replacements," said Annandale a 32-year veteran, with 24 years as a counselor. Many students are worried about the quality of recommendations the new counselors will give. However, Trost said that the new counselors will have to write sample college recommendations and hiring will be at least partially based on these.

SEE TEACHERS, PAGE 3

Roulette-McIntyre named new Heights principal

By Jennifer Broadbent
News Co-editor

After 21 years at Shaker, Assistant Princiapal Ovella Roulette-McIntyre will take a drive up Lee Road to continue her career as principal of Cleveland Heights High School. McIntyre reflected on the move for The Shakerite.

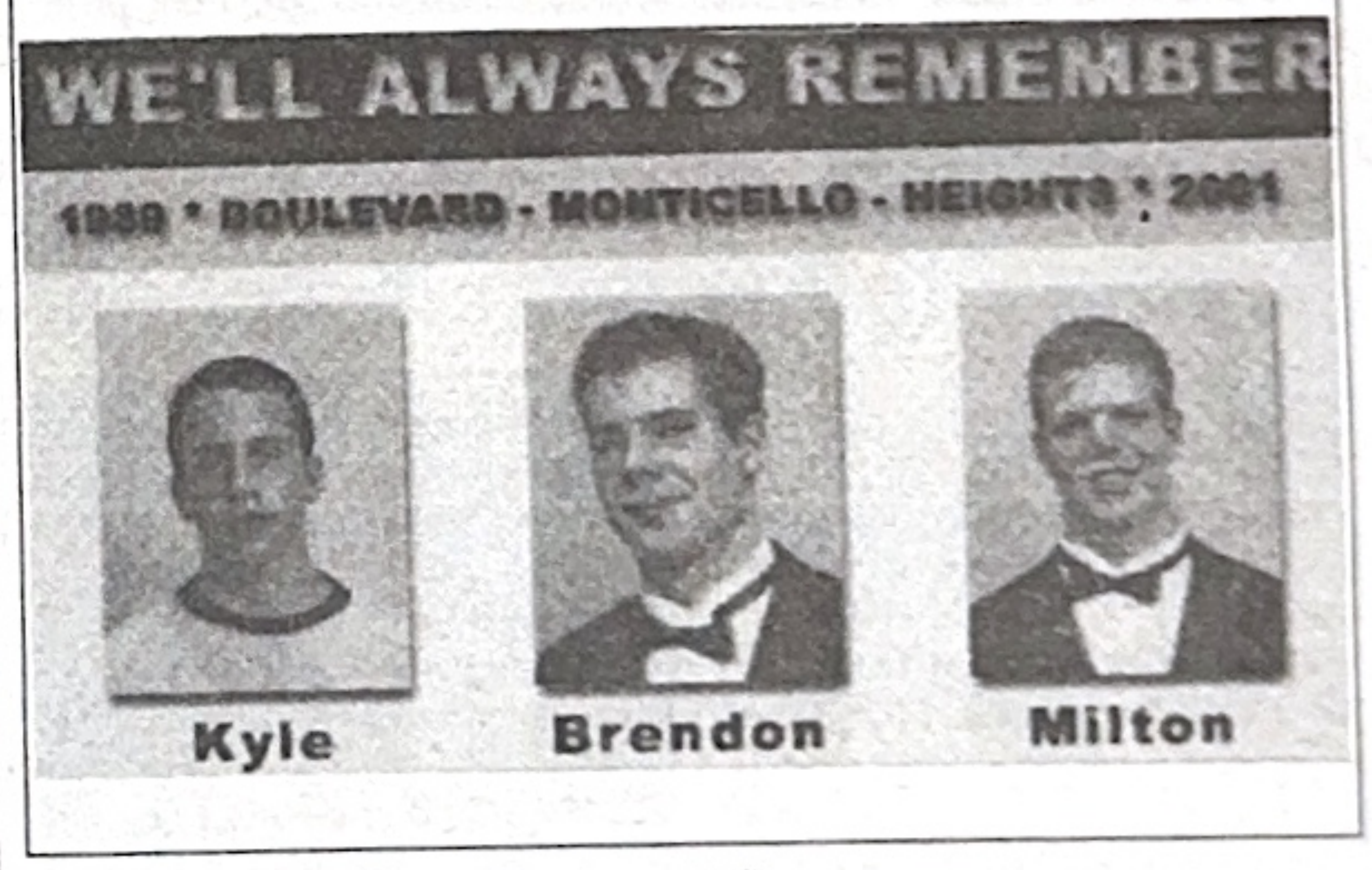
Were you ready for a change?
McIntyre: I think that everyday is a change for me because it is so unexpected, but it has been a wonderful 21 years.

Have you been teaching all that time?
OM: I started off as a math teacher at Woodbury and I have always worked in the tutoring center as the manager and as a teacher, so it was like I had already been on the staff here at the high school. That was just wonderful because I had an opportunity to really get to know the students. Then I came here when Woodbury closed in 1985. It was a neat experience when Woodbury and Byron merged because many people from the two staffs came to work here at the high school. I was at the middle school as an assistant principal in 1993 for just one year; there I met the class of 1998. Then, when Mr. Smith retired I came to be the freshman assistant principal and worked with the class of 1998 for five years. It was just wonderful to see them grow up. Some of them still come back to visit. We are just an extended family, that's how I look at. Of course my husband has been working here for 24 years.

What was your greatest accomplishment?
OM: I was inspired by my mom, who taught for 35 years. As a teacher I had the opportunity to work with outstanding educators on various initiatives for the district to help the students.

What made you decide to change jobs now?
OM: Well, for professional and personal growth. I have certification as a superintendent and certification for a principal. And I have experience as an assistant

SEE McINTYRE, PAGE 2



We'll always remember Kyle, Brendon and Milton.

Students distribute dashboard reminders

By Joseph Tartakoff
News Co-editor

Although it is only two weeks old, Shaker's newest club, Students Against Destructive Decisions, is already working to inform the student body of the horrible consequences bad choices can have.

"Students from Cleveland Heights High School came and passed out over 400 dashboard stickers in memory of their three classmates who died in an accident which may have involved their use of alcohol," said SADD adviser and school nurse Paula Dworkin. "They were escorted around the high school by SADD members." The distribution took place April 30.

The Feb. 11 crash sparked the formation of the SADD chapter at Shaker.

"I had been thinking about starting an organization like it for awhile, but the Heights accident

SEE SADD, PAGE 2

NEW CHALK ON THE BLOCK

Sophomore Emily Pfaff, sophomore Rachel Morgenstern -Clarren, senior Scott Greene and sophomore Drew Harrison work on a chalk drawing at the art fair which took place in the main courtyard on April 27. For more on the fair read Sara Reichstein's article on page 12.

Sara Reichstein/**The Shakerite**

Student suspended in coat controversy

• Sophomore launches campaign to change school policy

By Kate Whitney
Staff Reporter

That Clifton Robinson received five days suspension is a fact. The cause of his suspension, however, is a source of disagreement.

Administrators say Robinson disregarded a teacher's request. Robinson says he was just honoring the memory of a friend by wearing his coat.

The coat that started this controversy actually has a history of its own. It was a gift to Clifton from a close family friend whose husband committed suicide on the Polo Fields in the Metroparks. The coat belonged to the deceased man.

The High School Handbook states that "hats, scarves, headbands, coats, outerwear and tennis attire are not appropriate attire to wear in the building." But, does wearing a coat in school merit a suspension?

Sophomore Clifton Robinson certainly does not think so. He has, in fact, started a "no coat policy" petition, and has received more than 160 signatures. He feels so strongly about abolishing the no coat policy that he plans to take those signatures to the Board of Education.

On March 28, while Robinson was in study hall in the small auditorium, he was listening to his walkman. According to Robinson, his study hall teacher arrived and then told Robinson to put away his earphones.

"I complied and did exactly as he asked," Robinson said. "But I looked at him pretty hard. I didn't say a word to him." Robinson said he was then taken to his unit principal, Dr. Reginald Blue. He was told to open the Student Handbook and read aloud the rule banning headphones in school. He conceded and then walked back to the small auditorium with his teacher.

Along the way, according to Robinson, he was asked why he had the coat on and told to remove the coat. At that point Robinson went to counselor Jasmine Corbitt's office. According to Anne Kinchen, Robinson's mother, Corbitt was not opposed to Robinson wearing the coat, but she could not act on this for "political reasons." Corbitt was unavailable for comment.

The next day Robinson found himself suspended from school for five days, for the violation of wearing a coat in school.

"It was disappointing, particularly the principal's choice to permit that teacher to retaliate in that way against my child," Kinchen said. According to both Kinchen and Robinson, a parent conference never took place as prescribed in the handbook.

Sophomore Emily Pfaff agreed with reprimanding Clifton, but said the suspension is excessive. "I think the punishment was harsh and unnecessary," Pfaff said. "The school needs to stop solving minor problems by impulsively suspending people."

According to Principal Michael Griffith, the problem was not as much the coat as it was his unwillingness to cooperate. "My concern was that he was refusing to follow adult directions," Griffith said. "And it was about more than just his coat."

Clifton Robinson

"I respect what he is trying to honor," Griffith said. "However there are other ways to give respect other than to defy teachers."

Kinchen feels her son was treated unfairly.

"My child was singled out," Kinchen said. "I support my kid in his freedom of speech and hope that that rule is changed or at least applied to all students equally."

McIntyre to leave high school

MCINTYRE
FROM PAGE 1

What differences and similarities do you expect between the schools?

OM: There are several similarities. I'll mention two. First, I see that the student population is diverse and the faculty and the staff are very talented and creative.

What challenges do you expect from Heights High?

OM: I'll have to just wait and see, but there will be longer hours . . . definitely longer hours.

What problems do you see that are facing Cleveland Heights High School right now?

OM: The same challenges that are facing every high school now because of the issues that are facing our country. I think all schools are concerned about graduating and educating students. Safety is always a concern. They want to provide a safe nurturing environment and kind of persuade the students and staff to get educated. I don't know until I actually go to Heights and meet the kids and hear if they have any concerns.

Ovella Roulette-McIntyre

Have you visited Heights?

OM: No I have not. I have been in the building for sporting events and have met some of the administrators and the teachers.

SADD presses its mission

SADD
FROM PAGE 1

definitely pulled the idea of the club together. Many Shaker students knew the victims. Oftentimes it's not until terrible things happen that SADD chapters are formed," Dworkin said.

More than 15 students attended the club's first meeting April 25.

"I joined because I am really disturbed by the reckless behavior that teenagers involve themselves in, and I want to change it," sophomore Audrey Klein said.

"At the meeting we discussed the possibility of, beginning next year, going to the Middle School or Woodbury and talking to students there about the horrible effects drugs and alcohol can have.

We came to the realization that kids learn from each other and we believe we can really have a positive impact on them," she added.

SADD members also discussed ways to remind students not to drink and drive after prom.

Sophomore SADD member Deborah Kaufman is enthusiastic about the group's efforts so far.

"The more education there is, the less of a problem there will be. Right now there is way too much drinking in Shaker and too many crashes involving alcohol," she said.

Although the club's first meeting was well attended, no male students appeared.

"I was really shocked that no guys came. I thought it was very unfortunate and pretty pitiful. I mean 50 percent of all teenagers are guys, so I don't understand why they didn't come," Klein said.

Klein said Principal Michael Griffith attended the meeting and noted the absence of males.

"[He] gave us a homework assignment, which was for each of us to find a guy to bring to SADD's next event," she added.

club NOTES

Club Notes appear monthly. Submit your club's information to *The Shakerite* via Natalie Sekicky's mailbox.

SGORR

Marcia Jaffe, adviser
information

- Much gratitude for a wonderful year to all of our Student Group on Race Relations members, including our 65 graduating seniors. You will be missed.
- For those of you interested in joining SGORR, our membership meeting will be in the cafeteria during the first full week school next year. Watch for our posters and clear your calendars accordingly. Attendance at the meeting will be mandatory if you would like to join us for the 2000-2001 season.

Latin Club

Jane Ulrich, adviser
information

- We meet in room 308 every Wed.
- On May 4 we will be visiting the museum to see the Antioch exhibit.
- May 9 is the deadline to nominate people for consul next year.
- On May 16 we will have elections for consul.
- On May 21 we will have our Latin Banquet.

Youth Ending Hunger

Bill Scanlon, Kathy Brown, advisers
information

- We meet in room 278.
- Updates about club information appear on the door of room 277.
- On May 2 and 16 we will be volunteering at the Cleveland Food Bank from 4 to 8 p.m.
- On May 9 we will be volunteering at St.Timothy's Soup Kitchen from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m.
- *We will be having a Whirley Ball on a date TBA.*
- **We will be having a geranium sale on May 18 and 19.**
- **On May 12 we will be walking at the Hunger Walk from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Environmental Club

Rob Sylak, adviser
information

- We meet in room 175 every Tuesday.
- We had a rummage sale to raise money to save the rainforest on May 5.
- We currently need new members to help with our recycling project.
- We will have a camping and canoe trip on May 12 and 13.

Science Olympiad Club

David Klapholz, Linda Loeffler, Paul Repasy, advisers
information

- We meet in room 275.
- The Science Olympiad Club traveled to the State Meet in Columbus. The team finished in seventh place, which continues their strong improvement in recent years.
- Winning individual medals were Ed Cormany, Nate Emery, Andrea Kutik, Zak Lerner, Ben Saks, David Simmons-Duffin, Jeff Waldman and Melissa Walton. Congratulations to all team members.
- Team members will conclude their season with a pizza party on June 1.

Youth Leadership

Ashlie Dyers, adviser
information

- We meet at the Shaker Youth and Counseling Center at 16700 Van Aken Blvd.
- Includes leadership, group building skills and community service. If interested please see Matt Charnas, Rachel Shatten or Meg Robenalt for details. Our next meeting will be April 28.

Alliance Club

Cindy Finch, Cathy Lawlor, advisers
information

- We meet in room 231.
- We will have an end of the year Film Luncheon on June 13. Bring snacks.

Faculty shortage is felt at the high school

TEACHERS
FROM PAGE 1

The field for the counselors has already been narrowed to seven.

"He [Annandale] was doing a lot to help me with college," junior Sean Brakey said. Brakey said that in general Annandale gave out good advice on not only college, but also life. "It's kinda bad cause I've got to start all over with a new counselor," Brakey said.

Although the current juniors may prefer to have their former counselor help them apply to colleges, Trost said he "hope[s] the students will give the new person [counselor] a chance."

"It will be real tough to form a relationship with a new counselor," freshman Rebecca Callister said.

"I am used to Mr. Annandale . . . he seems to understand students needs and handles their everyday problems well . . . but I am really gonna try this new counselor."

Annandale also claimed that he would be glad to write recommendations for former students if they felt compelled to ask him.

Despite the wide range of confidence that competent replacements will be hired, there is a worry about the number of minority teachers that there will be next year. Five of the faculty members planning to retire are minority teachers and there is a major national shortage of minority educators.

The district has shown steady growth in the number of minority teachers, going from 16 to 22 percent over the past decade according to a March 14 addition of Board Notes.

However, nationally the number of minority teachers is expected to drop from 13 to 5 percent due to the retirement number of career minority teachers that are expected to retire. Not only are the numbers of minority teachers projected to fall, but the number of minority students will most likely rise. This creates a problem in many districts where minorities are prominent.

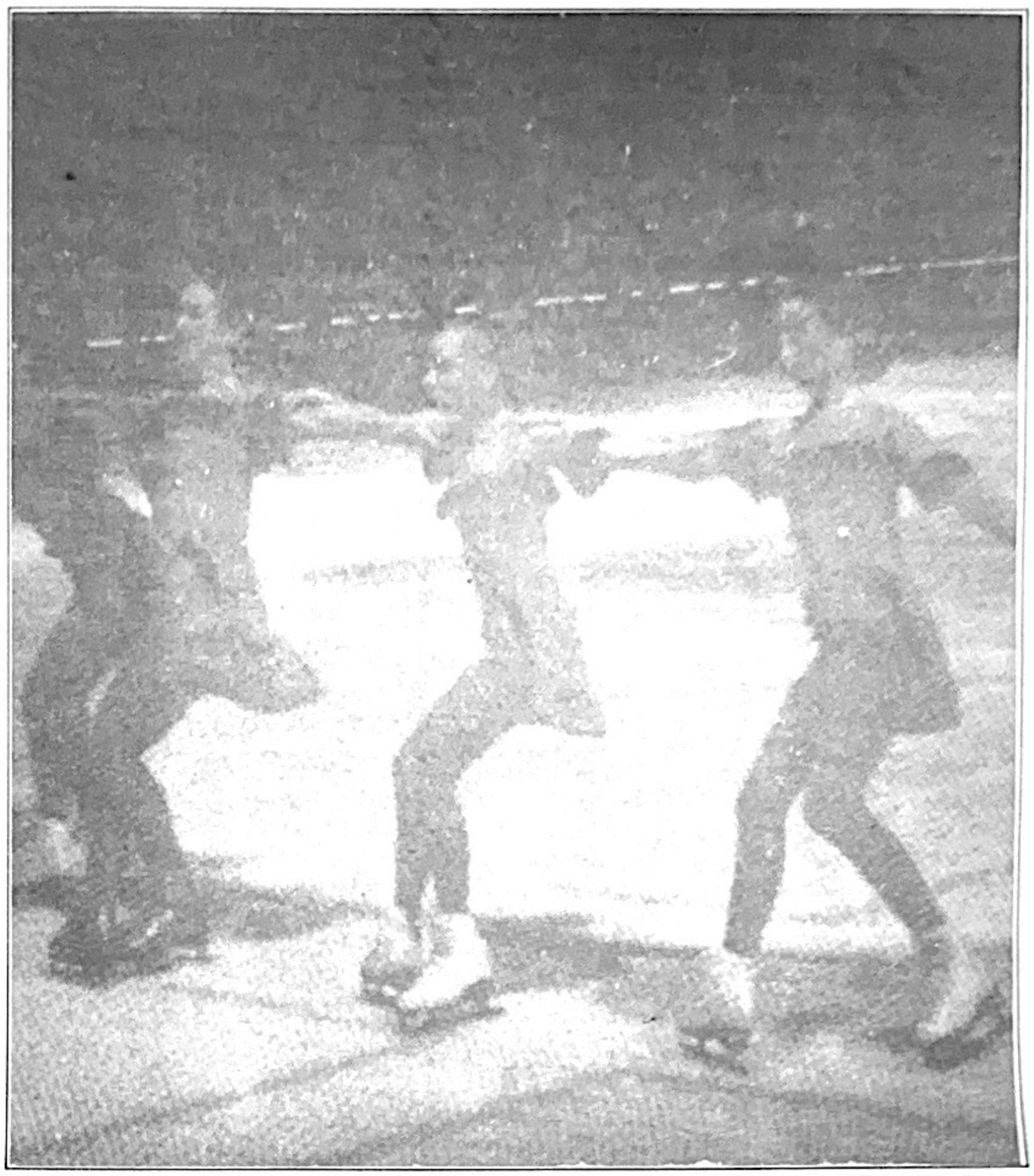
> ***"I am used to Mr. Annandale . . . he seems to understand students needs and handles their everyday problems well . . . but I am really gonna try this new counselor."***
>
> REBECCA CALLISTER
> sophomore

"It needs to be a priority," Annandale said. He said that preference needs to be given to minorities who apply for jobs along with Shaker graduates who want to teach here.

"It's important that African-American students have role models within the school," sophomore Stephanie Jacobs said.

Despite the need Jacobs felt for minority teachers to be hired she said, "The best people should get the job."

Sk8 gr8 Shaker!



Will Bostwick / The Shakerite

Sophomore Abigail Cahill (far left) skates at Thornton Park's Around the World Ice Show, which ran from May 3-5. Seniors Abby Penzner and Lindsay Graham, and sophomore Katie Coverdale also skated in last weekend's show.

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news in the NATION

❶ High school paper censored

• North Olmsted, OH- Three sophomores at North Olmsted High School were told by administrators that they would no longer be allowed to distribute their underground weekly newspaper, The Freedom Press. The editors have agreed to let the principal read each week's edition before it is distributed. (Plain Dealer)

❷ College aid not for addicts

• Washington- The White House has decided to enforce a law denying federal financial aid to college students with drug convictions. Failure to answer a drug conviction question will result in a rejection of the aid application. It will be enforced with the 2001-2002 application pool. (AP)

❸ Teacher strike closes schools

• Honolulu, HI- Hawaii's 220,000 public school students and college students are caught in the middle of a statewide teacher strike. Professors are demanding pay raises but the governor says the state can't afford that. Walkouts of 13,000 state teacher union workers and 3,100 university professors have shut down all public education in Hawaii. The problem has since been resolved. (AP)

❹ Lacrosse season cancelled

• Baltimore, MD- The boy's lacrosse season was cancelled at St. Paul's High School after a videotape of a JV player and a 15 year-old girl having sex was shown to a group of sophomores on the lacrosse team. The team had been ranked number one in *Lacrosse Magazine's* pre-season ranking. (Baltimore Sun)

Compiled by Jennifer Broadbent

Bursi brings changes to Shaker Middle School

By Allison Waltho
Staff Reporter

For most of us life at the middle school always seemed a little chaotic. Harder classes, a new social life and the sudden explosion of acne made getting through some days an ordeal. But there was still a general sense of order in the building.

"I think that it's gotten worse," freshman Becca Bonthius said. "Those kids are hoodlums." Bonthius' sister Liza is a seventh-grader.

Many high school students with siblings at the middle school agree that the atmosphere at the middle school has gotten progressively worse since they were in seventh and eighth grade. Take, for instance, the two lists found earlier this year by middle school assistant Principal Randy Yates. One list contained the names of 16 middle school students and the phrase "you will die." The second had the names of 12 students and "be prepared for Monday 'cuz you people will have a rude awakening."

After the hit-list incident many parents expressed concern and outrage over the goings-on at the middle school and more specifically then-Principal Dr. Neil Glazer's handling of the situation. Shortly afterward Glazer was transferred to the high school where he became an assistant principal.

Recently things have gotten better. Since February the middle school has had a new principal, Marianne Bursi. Many seventh- and eighth- graders like the climate of the school more since Bursi became their principal. She was originally an administrator at Onaway and came to the high school at the beginning of the 1999-2000 school year as an assistant principal.

"[Bursi] had a pep rally, Dr. Glazer never did that. She did a lot of things Dr. Glazer never did that helped the atmosphere of the school," eighth grader Sam Schiller said.

Bursi felt that one of the problems the middle school faced was a lack of communication among the school, students and parents. To help parents know what is going on at the middle school, Bursi developed a newsletter that comes out every other week. It features a letter from the principal and a section that recognizes students who have won awards for academic achievement.

"I think that students don't always tell their parents what's happening in school . . . so I developed this neon green newsletter," Bursi said. "Students who have won awards are highlighted . . . they'll go home and show their parents their names."

High school social worker Chris Ruma-Cullen has worked with Bursi to help change some of the behavior issues at the middle school. "I was struck by the fact that she has taken an active stance on changing negative behavior," Ruma-Cullen said.

The middle school courtyard was also renovated since Bursi took over. "Two students came to me with the proposal," Bursi said. On April 21, 15 student volunteers cleaned up the courtyard. Concrete picnic tables were moved in and now the area outside the cafeteria, which had previously been off-limits to students, is open for lunch and study hall.

Things are going well at the high school, too. Assistant Principal Dr. Reginald Blue thinks that Glazer fits in well. "He's brought the expertise of a veteran high school administrator as well as the advantage of [previously] working with many of the students who are here," he said.

Glazer enjoys his new role at the high school. "It's been a really wonderful year and I've enjoyed it very much," he said. "But here's the best part: I get to see just how fine many of our young adults have turned out. It's been very rewarding."

Les etudiants achètent des livres en français pour la bibliothèque

By Ashley Davies
Staff Reporter

Since the mid '90s the French club has been donating many books to the Shaker Heights High School Library.

Money to purchase these books is gathered by the French Club fund-raisers.

"We do fund-raisers, such as selling the lip shaped lollypops and the Eiffel Tower fruit snacks," said junior Elizabeth Arsham, the president of French Club

By donating books once or twice a year, the French Club has developed their own collection of books in the library, including children's books in both French and English.

"I'd say that [the French Club] has donated at least 150-200 books since they first started the club," said librarian Kelly Jons. "We have a whole section filled just with the books that they have donated."

Book titles include *Les Aventures de Tintin, Une Aventure ~ 'Asterix Le Gaulois, Babar* and the comic book *Lucky Luke.*

"Once a year we usually buy the books and then we go over it with the librarians," said French Club adviser Lynne Shima. "This year I think that we have donated around $1,100."

In addition to donating books, the money raised is also used to but other educational equipment.

"We also use the money to buy things for the French department," Shima said.

BIG NEWS

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FROM JOE AND JENN

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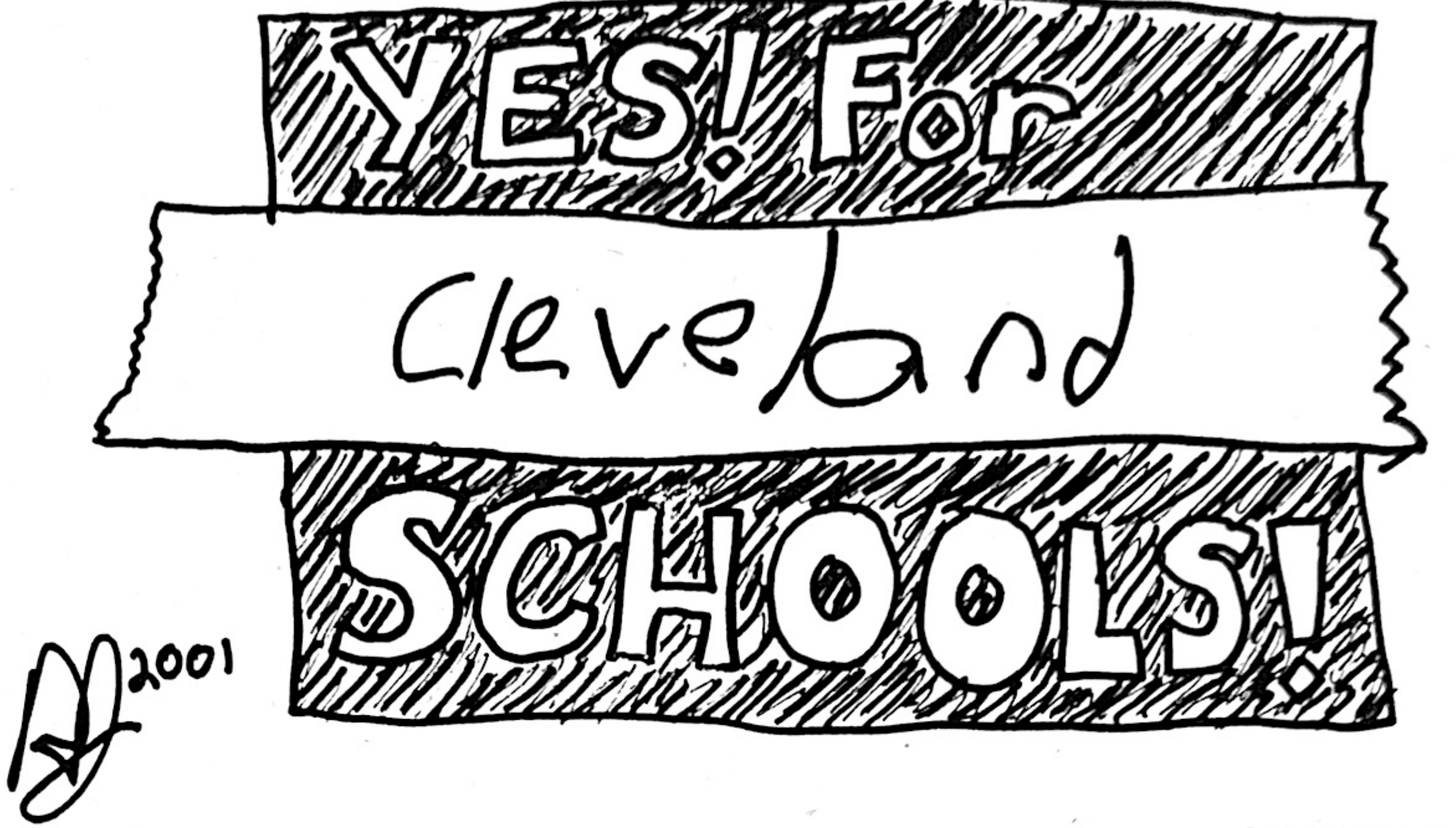


Rick Jennings/The Shakerite

Teenage drinking makes for teenage treatment

Teens believe they deserve the freedom to drink but don't want the responsibility or consequences that come with it. How often do we hear teens complain that the drinking age should be lowered, and then in the next sentence hear them boast about how they chugged themselves sick at a party the previous weekend?

'rite IDEA

Many teenagers regularly get into their cars without a second thought and drive home after a night of partying. Perhaps the rationale that kids under 21 are too immature to handle alcohol is true.

And yet, teenagers continue to argue otherwise: How dare the suits in Washington make decisions for us, the younger generation, especially when our president is a reformed addict? How can we be told to die for our country, and not be allowed to toast to the memory of a fallen friend?

But regardless of the number or strength of the arguments, is there any supporting evidence that shows that teens deserve the privilege to drink?

No.

Every weekend teens head to parties, packing their parents' cars with their drink of choice, yelling and laughing as they drag out the cases and trudge toward their destination, several blocks away. Parents are out of town and somebody has jangled the liquor cabinet open — tornadoes for everyone and perhaps, for the very lucky, a trip to the hospital.

This is a senseless display of self-loathing chased with more than a little immaturity.

Quality and taste of alcohol are rarely factors into these teenagers' decision to get sloshed.

Instead, teens drink simply to get drunk, with the excuse that "there's nothing better to do." How many teens do you know who enjoy an occasional glass of wine with their dinner? Or perhaps, with a loved one, sip martinis while watching a good movie? The fact is, hardly ever.

Teens drink quick and fast, running through beers like cups of water and laughing with their buddies when one of them stumbles to his or her car.

We're not condoning drinking, and we're not condoning not drinking. That is an issue for an entirely different article. If you want to get drunk, fine. But if you are not ready to drink with the responsibility of an adult, don't expect to be treated like one.

The TOP 10 Senior Projects you'll never hear about

10. Male exotic dancer
9. White House intern
8. WWF wrestler
7. Easter bunny
6. College student
5. Masseuse
4. Zamboni driver
3. Security guard
2. PGA golfer

and the number one senior project idea that you will never hear about is...

1. Phone sex operator

It's so hard to say goodbye . . .

The path that leads from Betty Boop to the Jungle on the second floor to room 231 we've traveled so many times, we can tell you how many steps it takes to get there.

The second floor women's lounge bathroom we've number two-ed in so many times we have stalls that we proudly call our own.

Since August 26, 1997 we have entered room 231 *at least* once a day for *at least* 50 minutes to do *at least* 70 minutes of bitching. And how many students can boast that they have traveled Shaker's hallowed halls at 3 a.m., so late that they've turned off the lights so you can't even use the bathroom?

From pictures of bloodied marathon runners, to Top Ten Indians game pick-up lines, to "Deeper Thoughts," to "Can't sports get their sh*t together for at least *one* issue?" we've come a long way . . . and used a whole lotta paper.

And now we can rightfully say, "Hey An, should we print?" . . . "Yes Jen. . . we damn well can!"

Adieu, future Shakeriters, and good-bye to our loyal audience. The time has come to board our jet plane- we wish the best to you.

Sincerely,
Jenny Heisler and Anahid Thompson

David Horowitz is not what you think

By Ashley Davies
Staff Reporter

Controversy has erupted across college campuses about an ad placed in 13 college newspapers by a man named David Horowitz. The ad outlined Horowitz's objections to the idea of paying reparations to the descendants of African American slaves. As a result, many copies of the newspapers that contained the ads were stolen, and people who felt hurt by the ad held protests.

Many students on college campuses have decided to take matters into their own hands, using words such as hate speech, verbal assault, intellectual harassment and nontraditional violence to redefine what is really reasonable criticism and a difference of opinion.

The lines are being blurred in schools as "offended" is being replaced by "harassed." The verb to offend means to create or excite anger, resentment or annoyance in, or to hurt the feelings of someone. To be harassed is to be persecuted by besetting with threats and/or demands. By confounding these terms, colleges produce feeble, lily-livered adults and release them into the real world.

These people are hypocrites. They don't want people voicing the opinion that reparations are unreasonable; they disagree with the opinion and thus deem it wrong and impermissible.

Just because you have an opinion doesn't mean you can prevent others from doing the same.

As years have passed, the achievements of many African Americans during and after slavery have been recognized by people all over the U.S. Slavery stripped men of their basic freedoms. The best that we as Americans can do now is to remember and praise all of the brave men and women for their roles in freeing slaves. Those individuals are deceased and recognized for their hardships in history; reparations to descendants are unnecessary. Besides, deciding just who should get the reparations would be an insurmountable task.

By confounding the terms of harassment and offense, colleges produce feeble, lily-livered adults and release them into the real world.

What if a person is bi-racial? Would she get half the sum? Paying reparations would place an unfair and prejudicial burden on whites.

Just as descendants of slaves should not be awarded reparations, descendants of slave owners should not be forced to pay them.

Slaves endured discrimination and even genocide, but innocent citizens should not pay reparations just because they are white.

Because they live in a country with freedom of speech, Americans have the right to be offended. Not printing an article or ad because it's going to offend people is wrong. That's a blatant violation of First Amendment rights.

Ads such as Horowitz's should make students open their minds to other points of view instead of making them censor speech. The Horowitz ad should have sparked healthy debate instead of riots. People should not live in fear because they hold a different view than the their vocal opponents.

Universities across America seem determined to make schools hate-free zones with anti-harassment policies. Instead of establishing these hate-free zones, many colleges have created what John Leo of U.S. News and World Report calls "a First Amendment-Free zone."

David Horowitz's ad hits college campuses hard

In the past few months, ex-Black-Panther-turned-conservative David Horowitz has been buying up advertising space in college papers across the country to run his "Ten Reasons why reparations for slavery is a bad idea-and racist, too" ad, with riots, stolen papers and policy changes as a result. *The Shakerite* has compiled quotes from from various schools to show the impact this one advertisement has had on schools nationwide.

Editorial Board statement of *The Badger Herald*, one of two daily papers at the University of Wisconsin, Madison: "We believe this action [apologizing] would be taking the easy way out and would unnecessarily surrender our and others' First Amendment rights." *Ran ad March 5, their rival paper* The Daily Cardinal *on ran an anti-Horowitz ad on the following day.*

Anzetse Were, student group coalition leader at Brown University: "The Horowitz ad rewrites history." The Brown Daily Herald *ran the ad March 16, and a coalition of student groups stole more than 4,000 copies of the paper that morning.*

Matt Dees, editor of *The Daily Tar Heel* at The Univeristy of North Carolina: "Anyone who would immediately label as racist an entire newspaper for running an unpopular view is guilty of the very charge being levied against Horowitz." *Chose not to run ad, but gave allowed Horowitz an editorial, running pieces with different viewpoints on the same page as well.*

Daniel Hernandez, editor of *The Daily Californian* at The University of California, Berkeley: "Some may subscribe to the First Amendment in defending yesterday's ad, but, in my view at least, freedom of speech is compromised when it is bought." *Ran ad on Feb. 28, then after rioting ran a front-page apology Feb. 29.*

Greg Pessin, editor of Duke University's *Daily Chronicle*: "Although Horowitz's opinions may offend some people, we should loath to allow the radical nature of his ideas to prevent them from being presented to the community." *Ran ad March 19 with protests and a May 21 front-page explanation resulting.*

Corporate connections, cult of personality undermine credibility of news

By Rob Rains
Opinion Co-editor

Is our news biased? You bet your bottom dollar it is! As I sit down to watch the evening news, I see the Rupert Murdoch-owned Fox News featuring a "tough interview," in which Bill O'Reilly throws softball questions at someone he agrees with. And if I can stand to suffer through that hour, I am treated to "Hannity and Colmes," a talking head travesty as it represents both sides of the political spectrum, right and center.

Since my remote control's batteries still work (despite how many times I have thrown the remote down in utter frustration) I decide to change the channel to hear the conventional wisdom of Dan Rather. Rather's reassuring voice tells me I have finally met some balanced news. "Good evening. Legislation to reform shady big-money campaign fund-raising is dead in Congress. Republican opponents in the Senate killed it today." (CBS Evening News, Feb. 26, 1998). Whooah, what happened!?

Rather (in an act of being a good father) attended a Democratic fund-raiser with his politically savvy daughter. Now Rob, you are saying, reporters have the right to attend fund-raisers, as long as they maintain objectivity. However, Rather's name appeared on the marquee and by the end of the day he helped raise over 30,000 dollars for the DNC.

"It seems like every news channel is a marionette to their fat cat parent company, ruling out any chance of honest reporting."

If that's not bad enough, Tony Snow, one of Fox News' biggest attractions recently wrote a column for the GOP website, a blatant act of partiality towards the right. Fox often claims "We report, you decide" on their network, or as *The Nation* printed boldly on their cover a couple months ago, more like, "We distort, you decide."

According to Ratherbiased.com, Dan Rather has been inconspicuously leaking his political views for years and polluting the objective atmosphere that once was the evening news.

I like chocolate ice cream. There I go being biased, oh wait a minute, does it say Opinion at the top of this page? Why! Golly it does! I guess that means that it is okay for me to present my views because I am not trying to pass it off as hard news.

How common is it now-a-days for you to hear anchor men and women insert their "two cents" into a story. "Gee Jan, why do you think they would do something like that?" I dunno, I guess I made the mistake and took your show for a newscast, sorry about that.

What happened to reporting, what happened to straight arrow news? Try to find an episode of WUAB News Channel 43 on Thursday night that doesn't have a segment on WWF Smackdown! or on professional wrestling in general.

"Dear Santa, forget about the cheerleaders. All I want for Christmas is a decent, respectable newscaster."

Ego-maniac newscasters are not the only problem. How about the fact that it seems like every news channel is a marionette to their fat cat parent company? CBS is owned by VIACOM, the same company that owns MTV, TNN and Nickelodeon, so I guess that rules out any chance of "honest reporting" on any sort of unscrupulous activities in those areas of television. Some gutsy reporter mind find himself operating out of a cardboard box on sunset boulevard by the next day for such a crime against his employer.

AOL/Time Warner owns CNN, as well as ABC, TBS, ESPN and TNT. That just about covers our cable news sources. I could only laugh when I watched a segment on MSNBC (Microsoft News Broadcasting Company) report on the Microsoft trial.

Dear Santa, forget about the cheerleaders, all I want for Christmas is for some decent, respectable newscaster (without a movie script to sell, or agenda to slip into segments) to report honestly. I guess I am better off wishing for a decent XFL football game, but hey, its worth a shot.

Don't kill the messenger, your guidance counselor or yourself

•In the grand scheme of things, college isn't all it seems

I almost killed my mail carrier this year. Literally. It was Dec. 18, the day my early decision letter from a certain university was sure to arrive at my house, and I had been pacing in front of the mail chute for nearly two hours.

Finally realizing that biting my nails and tugging at my hair was not going to bring the postal worker any sooner, I decided to go out for a drive to distract myself.

Pulling out of my driveway, I spotted the mail carrier's white van at the corner of my street, and even better, I spotted the blue uniform of the postman himself.

Debra Kamin
Opinion Co-editor

Speeding frantically to the end of Traver Road, I made a U-turn, and then looked up just in time to slam on my brakes—Mr. Mailman was standing, frozen, about half a foot from the hood of my car. I was six inches away from having killed a government worker.

The worst part was not that I failed to look before I turned, though. The worst part was that while the poor man was picking up his scattered packages from the road, the very first thought that ran through my head was, "It's a good thing you didn't kill him, Debra, because he probably has your letter on him right now."

College admissions suck. Period. They are arbitrary, they are surprising and seniors get so caught up in them that they lose all rationale and reason. But nothing sucks more than not getting in to a school that you really wanted to go to.

I received more than one rejection letter this year. Rejections that surprised me. Rejections that I don't think I deserved.

I probably sound bitter, and I may be a bit. If I am, though, it's not because I wasn't accepted at a school that I believe I was qualified to attend. It's because all of the hours and dollars my parents and I spent on preparing for college could have been directed toward a much worthier cause.

For every practice test I took prior to the SAT, I could have been outside in the fresh air or at a party with my friends. For all the money spent on trips to visit schools, I could have financed a round-trip to Paris or Rome.

The bottom line is that very few people get into every school to which they apply. Most of us seniors got rejection letters this year, and a lot of us probably overreacted. I think we all got a little distracted, though, and forgot why we were really in high school in the first place.

I cheated myself quite a bit this year, too. I began going to class obsessed with the idea that my self-worth was suddenly dependent upon which schools opened their arms to me, and only focused on the grade, not on what I was learning. I'm no less intelligent because some schools didn't have room for me, and the idea that I won't be successful because I'm not going to my first choice school is ludicrous.

It would be quite a shame if all 1700 students in this building spent four of the most wonderful years of their life looking only in one direction—toward the next four.

Part of high school is to prepare us for college, yes, but a lot of it is also to learn and explore while we're here. A student who decides to take Area Studies on Wednesday nights instead of the Princeton Review may not raise her SAT score that guaranteed 100 points, but she'll probably enjoy being 16 much more.

Nothing wrong with planning for college. But lots of things, like the lives of postal carriers and the fun of senior year, mean a whole lot more than how thick the envelopes were this month.

Rick Jennings
Staff reporter

Posters make the Presidency

When I go into the auditorium to vote in Student Council elections, I already have my mind made up. It doesn't have to do with anyone being my friend or even whether this person is smart, a good student, or an athlete. And it is totally unrelated to their leadership qualities, organizational skills, or ability to get to school at 7:00 am on Wednesday mornings.I vote according to the posters.

It's simple. Whoever has the most posters must be the best candidate. If you can con your parents to pay for 75 color copies of your poster, you must be doing something right.

While it may not be the best strategy, putting six different campaign posters for yourself in the same place *must* work. Maybe the paper milling industry funded your campaign.

Nineteen posters in a row shouting at passersby to support you and your buddy for president and VP may seem like overkill, but I'm sure that this is a campaigning stratagem that is just way above my head. After all, they are in a highly visible place in the school. Maybe six posters in a cluster is more economical than a display board.

I really appreciate the humor involved. It's obvious that cracking a joke is one of the only requirements to be a member of Student Council. Walking through the hall, I laugh whenever I see a new poster with a new "Deep Thought" and a small message telling me to vote for you, whoever you are. Forget issues, ideas, whatever. You're goshdarn funny.

In every election, there are winners and losers. The big losers in this election, though, are America's forests. These campaigns alone have probably leveled an area of forest about the size of Beachwood. I feel sorry for the custodians who will have to clean it all up.

Another fine practice that this campaign has introduced is the covering up of an opposing candidate's poster with your own. By using this crafty technique, you can advertise yourself while blocking someone else. This is just like if Al Gore bought a TV ad at a local station to run instead of George W. Bush's national ad during *Millionaire*.

So, if you're crafty, rich or funny, you can definitely do it. Get your flyers to cover up your opponents'. Crack some jokes just like the real politicians. You've got my vote.

Why neither flexing nor prepping should be denied

By Alex Madorsky
Staff reporter

Flex night is one of the most beloved of all school policies by students. Perhaps I should say it is beloved on those occasions when it is actually granted in accordance with school policy. This is a rarer thing than one might imagine in too many courses. Teachers formulate and propagate innumerable reasons as to why they are duty bound to violate this pesky school rule. Either their class is too hard and they don't have the time, or the class is so easy that the student is not entitled to another night off.

There is no class in the high school that cannot go a night a week without homework. Even AP classes, supposedly college level courses, can manage in my experience. If the class is so difficult that it inherently violates a school rule, then it must be eliminated in order to comply.

A school that habitually abrogates its own codified concessions to stressed students cannot lay claim to the intellectual honesty it strives to promote. Many teachers give off one night a week regardless of which they are supposed to, either ignoring or not caring that this destroys the purpose of flex night.

This guarantees that students will have no work on one night and too much on the next, decreasing the academic competency of students and impairing the development of strong study habits. "Convenience" is often given as a justification for such behavior. It would be convenient to administer corporal punishment for some teachers, the district would react in horror at this physically harmful behavior as they condone violation of academically harmful behavior.

On Friday evenings it would be convenient for me to speed home on westbound Shaker Boulevard and then take the Lee Road U-turn at 35 mph to maximize my viewing of Late Night with Conan O'Brien. Convenience is used by the unscrupulous as a synonym for dislike. But dislike does not allow one to break a law, neither should it permit teachers to ignore school policy.

Next time students do not wish to do homework from a subject that has flex night, they should simply not do it. Any teacher who attempts to deduct credit is violating school rules and should be appropriately disciplined.

Then there is the matter of the pep rally. I was not personally privy to all of the delinquent behavior that took place when the last pep rally was supposed to take place, but I can understand the administration's reasons for canceling it.

Of course, this rewards the unruly a trophy for their contemptible behavior and sends a message to the well-mannered that they have no reason to be so. It also tells state champion athletes that the recognition they get for bringing positive publicity to the school will consist of PA announcements and little else.

More disturbing is the fact that the administration (now I refer to the folks in the building down the street, not Principal Michael Griffith), despite their apology to the contrary, does not really care about the hard work Student Council, athletes and coaches put into this event.

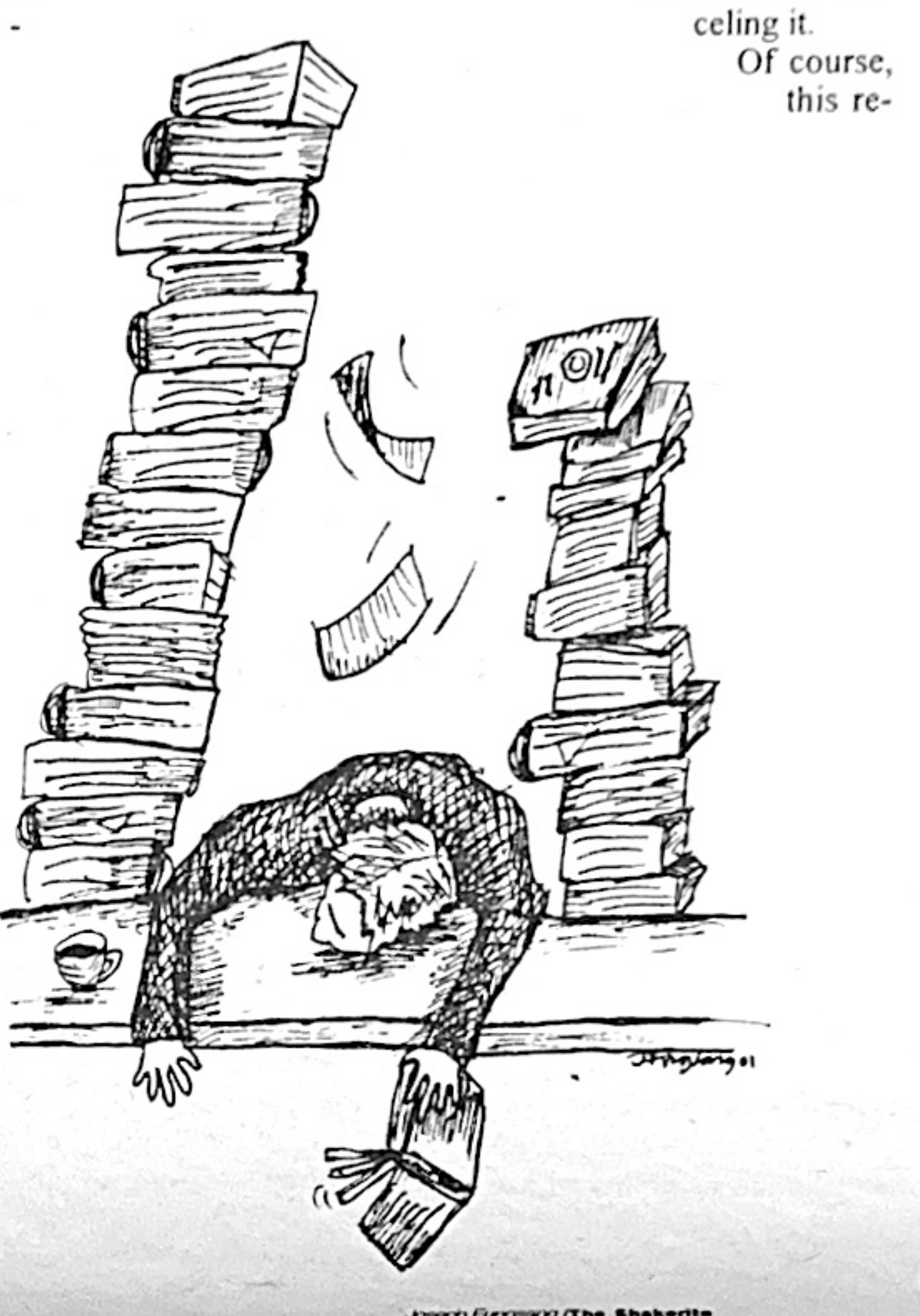
Lauren Gibbons, Chairperson of the Pep Rally Committee is as amiable and diligent a sort as one is likely to meet in the high school, and she had the entirety of her hard work destroyed by one command from on high. It appears the administration currently intends to destroy her position as well, as it is now district policy that high school students are too wacky to all be in the same place at one time. Perhaps she should engage in the ultimate protest by wearing a spaghetti-strapped tank top to the Ad Building.

I understand that the Superintendent had a meeting with some Council members, but at the time of writing his silence on this issue has been deafening.

I was recently reelected as a representative for the Class of 2002; I can only hope that the administration will allow me to do good work next year without forbidding or destroying it.

If Shaker High continues to backslide into easygoing authoritarianism with regard to dress, study and celebration, it will cease to be Shaker, but rather it will be like any other mediocre public high school in the nation.

And just remember the district dogma: "A Community is Judged by the Schools it Keeps."



Joseph Fungsang /The Shakerite

Shaker SPEAKS

After the recent citation of Jenna Bush, President Bush's daughter, for underage drinking, we asked Shaker students if they think the drinking age should be lowered.

"Kids can't drink responsibly."

ARTHUR BOYD
sophomore

"(Raise the drinking age) and more kids would be drinking at a younger age."

VERNON WHITMORE
freshman

"If I am old enough to drive and to vote, I should be old enough to drink."

MIKE LEWIS
junior

"People are going to drink no matter what the age is, let's face it."

CATHY CURTISS
senior

"You are gonna be able to get (alcohol) anyway."

STEVEN MALONE
sophomore

"People are going to (drink) anyway, it might as well be lowered."

MIKE AMADDIO
freshman

Earth Issues

George W. Bush is making his presence known with several key environmental policy decisions

by Julie Redline
Centerpiece Co-editor

Arsenic, Greenpeace, Kyoto. What do these terms have in common? They are all part of President George W. Bush's recent environmental policies.

Since his January inauguration, Bush has made several key decisions that have spurred controversy and protests among environmentalists.

Many complaints about Bush's policies center on the appearance that he values the economy above the environment.

"I think he should try and balance it out. He can help the economy, but if the environment goes down, the economy doesn't matter," said senior Sandra Bakasa.

The Bush administration decided on March 20 to repeal the regulations on arsenic in drinking water that President Clinton put into place three days before leaving the Oval Office.

In 1999, the National Academy of Sciences said that arsenic in the drinking water can cause bladder, lung and skin cancer, and could possibly cause liver and kidney cancer.

Environmental science teacher Robert Sylak believes that Clinton "set up" Bush by agreeing to reduce arsenic levels without having to personally deal with the implementation. He also said that in his opinion, Clinton would have taken the same actions that Bush did.

Dr. Robert Krebs, assistant professor of biology at Cleveland State University, said that the reason that Bush is able to increase the allowable arsenic in drinking water is that there is very little known about the dangers of arsenic right now. The Environmental Protection Agency has very little data because it is difficult and expensive to run experiments on humans.

"Very little is known with respect to how these metals interfere with the brain," he said.

Some students think that issues such as arsenic in the water are far more important than economic issues.

"How dare he try to ruin the environment," said Benaud Jones, freshman. "Someone needs to step in and stop him from ruining the environment. The environment should come first, and all other actions taken by George W. Bush should be done around the environment."

> *"We want this toxic Texan to know that trashing 30 years of environmental gains, then making a few token green announcements for Earth Day is an unacceptable environmental agenda."*
>
> JOHN PASSACANTANDO
> executive director of Greenpeace

Junior Amy Schiller is also concerned about the damage that Bush is doing to the environment.

"A lot of people don't realize just how tenuous the environmental situation right now is," Schiller said. "Even a slight decrease in the level of care and protection that we give the environment could have long term disastrous effects."

In addition to the arsenic regulations, Bush is also planning to change another last-minute Clinton regulation blocking logging and development in remote public forests.

The Roadless Area Conservation Rule was completed Jan. 5 and is considered by environmentalists to be one of Clinton's greatest accomplishments, according to Newhouse News Service.

Bush ordered a 60-day suspension of the regulation when he took office in late January, and he is attempting to further suppress the rule.

Bush has also publicly abandoned his campaign pledge to reduce power plant emissions of carbon dioxide and refused to ratify the Kyoto treaty, which aims to decrease carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

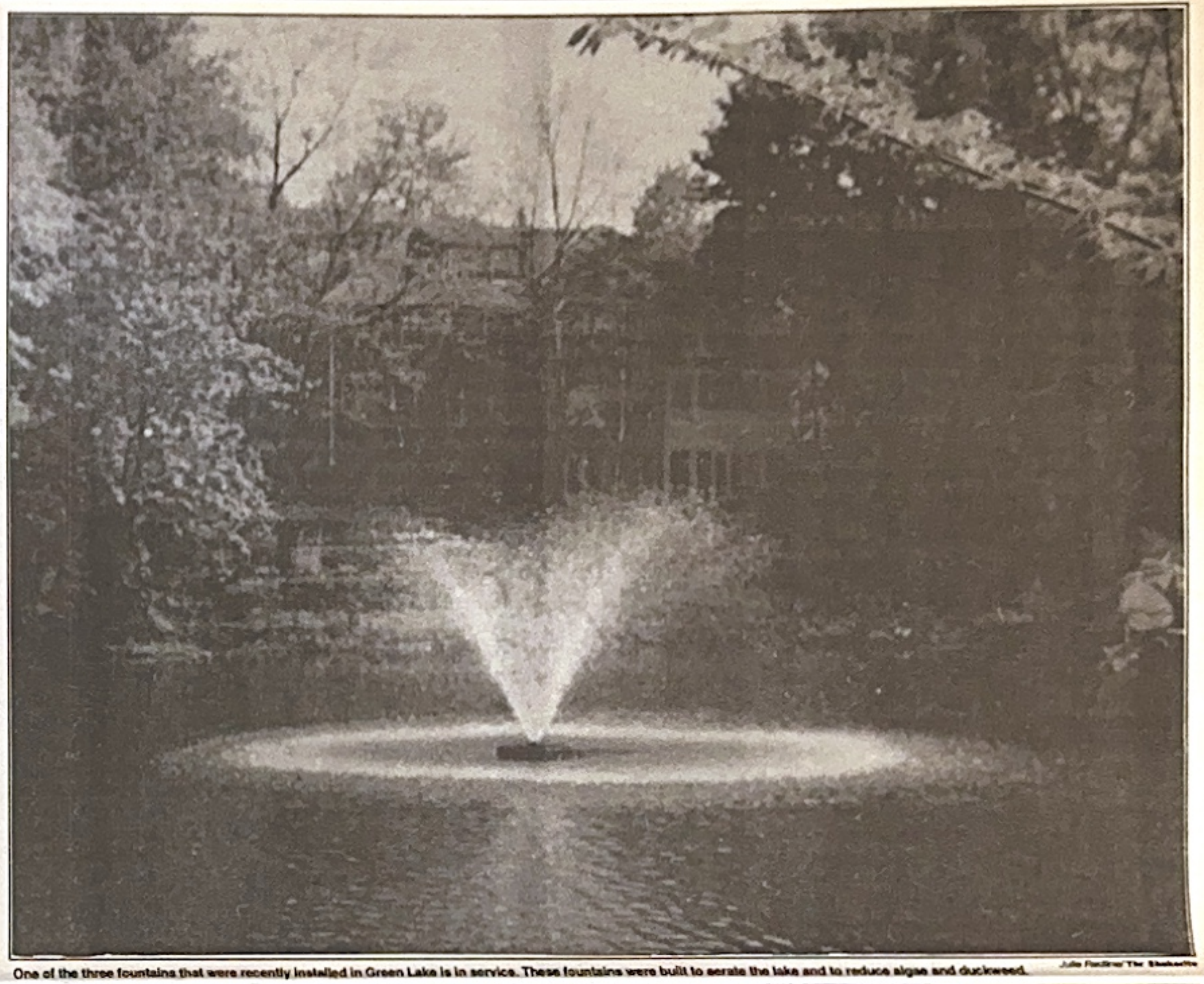
In recent weeks, many environmental groups have protested against Bush's policies. Greenpeace activists chained themselves to the entrance of the Environmental Protection Agency building and scaled a water tower in Crawford, Texas, near Bush's ranch.

According to cnn.com, Greenpeace cited Bush's reversal of carbon dioxide reduction campaign pledges and plans for oil exploration in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as major complaints.

The Bush administration has made some positive steps toward aiding the environment. On April 19 Bush announced plans to sign a global treaty to stop the use of 12 highly toxic chemicals, including DDT and other pesticides.

Despite these efforts to appease environmentalists, John Passacantando, executive director of Greenpeace, is still not satisfied.

"We want this toxic Texan (Bush) to know that trashing 30 years of environmental gains, then making a few token green announcements for Earth Day is an unacceptable environmental agenda," said Passacantando in a statement, according to cnn.com.

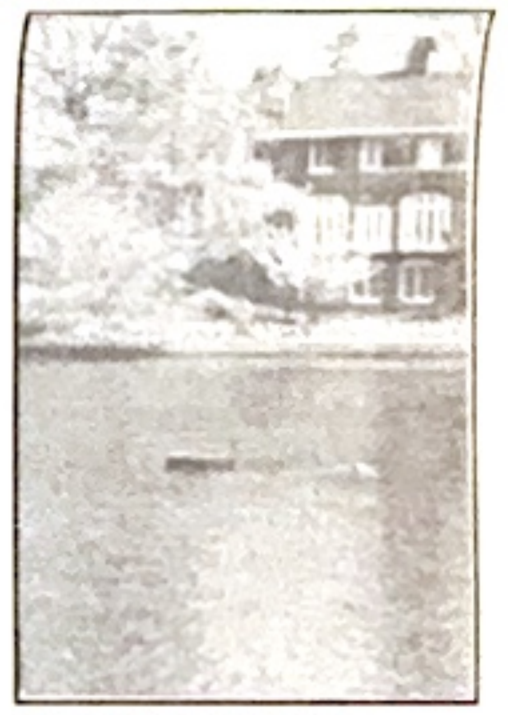


One of the three fountains that were recently installed in Green Lake is in service. These fountains were built to aerate the lake and to reduce algae and duckweed.

Julie Redline/The Shakerite

Shaker residents and neighbors enjoy sitting by Green Lake but complain about excessive algae and duckweed.

City workers cooperate with hired environmental consultant, Paul Pira, to install the aeration fountains in Green Lake near Aldersyde Drive.



When not in operation, the fountains look like tires floating in the lake.

Environment vs. Economy: Is Bush making the right decisions?

"I didn't expect any better from Bush, but I think he's gone too far. I can understand the Kyoto treaty, but arsenic in the water is too much."

-Elliot Klein, senior

"I think it's more important to help the economy now, and just see what happens later."

-Lamar Miller, junior

"I'm all about the environment. The economy won't mean anything if we don't have an environment later."

-Whitnei Barrett, junior

"Gore would have been exactly the same. Bush is just making choices that are good for the economy, which is important right now."

-Nick Bruch, senior

The Los Angeles Times published a poll of public opinion on April 30, 2001. 50 percent of Americans believe that improving the environment should take priority over economic prosperity. 56 percent said they oppose Bush's decision to overturn the reduction of arsenic in drinking water. 59 percent posed Bush's withdrawal from the Kyoto treaty on global warming.

Local ecology

Shaker works for a safer environment by cleaning up the lakes and controlling pesticide use

by Lia Silver
Centerpiece Co-editor

As flowers begin to bloom and birds start chirping, SHHS students' thoughts increasingly stray from their studies to plans of lounging on friends' front lawns, or maybe taking a refreshing swim in the Shaker Lakes. These students, however, may want to rethink their plans.

The pesticides that many residents use on their lawns may pose serious risks to community members' health.

"My understanding is that, according to the New England Journal of Medicine, you are four times more likely to have soft tissue cancer if you were raised in a neighborhood that uses pesticides," said environmental science teacher Robert Sylak.

Sylak said that even if a household does not use pesticides on their lawn, it is likely that at least one of their neighbors do.

"If I see a sign warning of pesticides, then I wouldn't go up and lay on the lawn," junior Alyssa Miller said. "But the signs blow away, and after that there's not much you can do about it."

Those pesticide users who choose to pass up lounging on their lawns may want to take a creek walk in Shaker's Doan Brook instead. But even this might not be the safest idea.

"There are times when Doan Brook is not safe to go in," Sylak said. "Sometimes the sewers overflow and mix with the brook water."

Fortunately, according to Sylak, the problem has gotten a lot better in the last 20 to 30 years. The city of Shaker Heights dug up and replaced most of the connecting sewers in order to lessen the problem of sewage mixing into Shaker's brooks and lakes.

Although not every Shaker Lake is a health concern, others have become an aesthetic concern. For instance, Green Lake, located near Aldersyde Drive, has gathered quite a collection of duckweed and algae.

According to aquatic biologist Paul Pira, who was hired by the city as an environmental consultant, fertilizers from the golf course and surrounding lawns run off into the lake. The fertilizers add excessive amounts of nutrients, which causes the growth of algae.

"Anything you would put down on land eventually ends up in the water," Pira said.

No matter how hot it is outside, most students would not consider a swim in duckweed refreshing.

"I would never swim in [Green Lake]," freshman Jermaine Brown said. "It looks filthy—like it could be toxic."

To improve the problem, Shaker has installed three aerator fountains into Green Lake. The aerators will stir up the water, which will make duckweed less of a problem. Plus, they will help provide oxygen in the lake, which will allow for more organisms to exist in the water, Pira said.

Senior Adam Abelson is glad that the aerators were added to the lake.

"All I know is that [the aerators] are a very good thing if they get rid of all the muck on it," Abelson said.

There is also hope for Doan Brook, which has lost many water organisms due to pollution. According to Pira, there is a proposed plan to reintroduce native fish to the water. The native fish had become scarce after the green sunfish, which thrives in polluted waters, outnumbered them.

According to David Wright, a naturalist and outreach coordinator at Shaker's Nature Center, there is also a problem with the crumbling of walls into the water of Doan Brook. There are plans to fix this through retrofitting, a natural redoing of banks that involves growing plants along the edges in order to naturally clean the lake and allow for the roots to hold the walls together, Wright said.

Despite all these problems, compared to other cities, Shaker has remained concerned with keeping the city environmentally safe.

According to Sylak, Shaker does not spray pesticides on areas where children play, has cut back on elm spraying because of the possible link to cancer, and has an active community recycling program.

Most students are proud of the special efforts that Shaker makes to keep its environment and its citizens safe, yet there is still always room for improvement.

"I think they attempt to do lots of environmental programs, but they don't always enforce it," sophomore Rachel Shatten said. "People need incentives to go out there and try to make a difference. They need to be made aware that they can actually help."

Celebrate Earth Day every day

The 31st annual Earth Day was on April 22, 2001. The first Earth Day was April 22, 1970, organized by Senator Gaylord Nelson. In the summer of 1969, Nelson decided to imitate the anti-Vietnam War demonstrations at college campuses with a grassroots protest on behalf of the environment. An Earth Day website, "Earth Day Resources for Living Green," suggests the following tips to celebrate Earth Day every day:

Replace halogen lights with compact flourescents

The 980 million compact flourescent lights used today save the same amount of electricity as about 100 average coal fired plants.

Keep your car tuned up, your tires inflated, or don't drive a car at all.

Each gallon of gas spews 26 pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Buy rainforest friendly clothes (Patagonia and Esprit) and cosmetics (Rainforest Essentials and The Body Shop).

Rainforests are being destroyed at a rate of two acres per second every year.

Want something chic and unique? Sew it yourself!

By Katie Glass
Staff Reporter

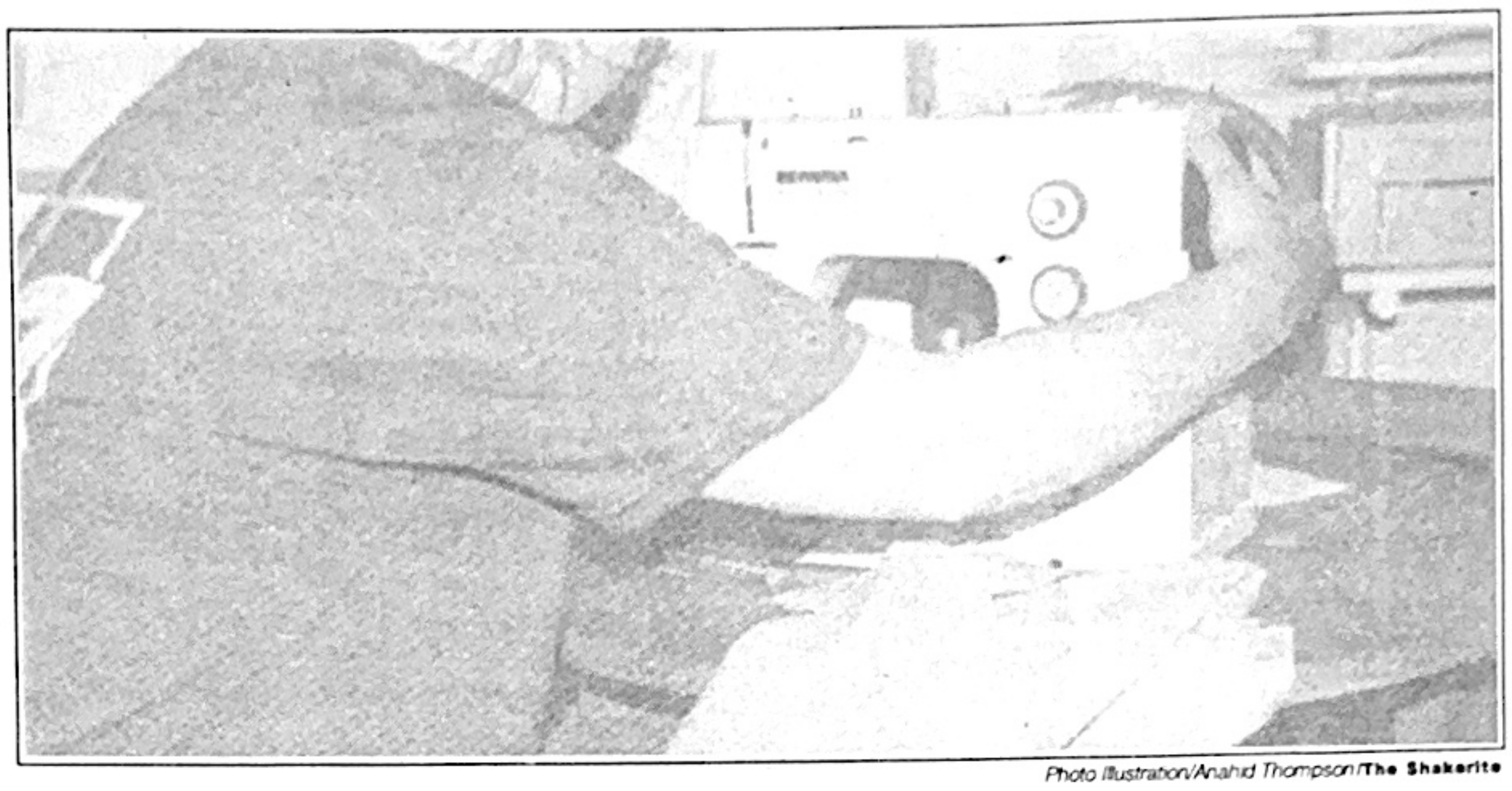


Photo Illustration/Anahid Thompson/**The Shakerite**

Ugh... your hand is aching because you have just cut five yards of thick, jean material. Now you have to use your throbbing hand to sew this massive amount of material so that the item of clothing you've designed looks as good as it does on paper. You wonder if your own fashion trend is really going to work. Should you stop? NO! Being unique is awesome!

Look around everywhere at what people are wearing. Ever think where the ideas for the designs came from? Someone has to come up with those fashion trends, and some Shaker students are doing just that. Shaker's aspiring fashion experts are busting at the seams. Students are making and designing their own clothes out of things around the house. Besides being a great form of artistic expression, it's cheap, it's friendly and it's like recycling your clothes.

Freshman Jessica Miller is constantly sketching out ideas. She would like to pursue a career in the fashion business, but for now she is sticking to accessories. Most of her ideas come from magazines or her own imagination--like the purse she made out of an old sweater. Miller used the arms of the sweater as the handle, and the body was the inside carrier.

"It's always something I've been interested in, it's what I like to do in my free time," said Miller of her designing.

Other freshman like Caitlin Corrigan and Jenny Stern like to cut up old clothes that they don't wear anymore and turn them into new clothes. Corrigan has been seen in the halls of Shaker sporting a homemade skirt, which she made by sewing a T-shirt in between the pant legs of an old pair of jeans. Stern once made a skirt out of a pillowcase, but her real talent is turning anything she can find into a belt. She also adds color and designs to tank tops to make a plain shirt more interesting.

"It's fun, first of all, and if you want unique items you have to make them," Stern said.

If you like to be creative with foreign objects try your luck with duct tape, like sophomore Thaddeus Templeton. Templeton has made inovative duct tape creations, including a hat weaved with thick strips of double sided duct tape that looks like a straw hat, and a weaved vest. The company that makes duct tape, Manco, has picked up on the idea of duct tape creations and is offering a $2,500 college scholarship to any couple who attends prom wearing clothing or accessories made from duct tape. The high school of the winning couple will also receive a $2,500 donation.

Armine Thompson/**The Shakerite**

Sarah Mulligan models her homemade patchwork pants and SGORR shirt, which she admits is not her own creation. Her pants were made by cutting along the seems and then sewing in patches of fabric

Junior Claire Dietrich uses clothes designing as a creative outlet.

"After we lost states in girl's lacrosse I painted black platforms from Value City real springy to brighten the rest of the year," she said. Dietrich also makes pants and she fills out her bellbottoms by adding fabric to the outside seam. She once made a patchwork dress with her sister who taught her to sew. Dietrich often finds cheap fabric for her clothes creations at thrift stores.

Senior Tasha Taylor has even gone as far with her penchant for fashion as to make her own after-prom outfit. Taylor said that the hardest part about making her after-prom belt was putting on the 1,200 rhinestones by hand. She also made studded jeans for her homecoming ensemble. Taylor doesn't just save her creative abilities for herself. She also designs and makes outfits for her friends. Taylor estimated that she has made six different outfits for friends, free of charge.

"I'm scared to charge people because I'm afraid they might not be satisfied with what I give them," she said. She also has designed four of her friends' prom dresses and her own. Taylor sent her design to be made and luckily, the finished product was just what she intended it to be.

Senior Sarah Mulligan is a fashion veteran. She enjoys going to Phish concerts and mimicking what the other girls there are wearing. She reads the magazine Gypsy Rose for new ideas. According to Mulligan the coolest thing she ever made is a patchwork dress from tons of different fabrics. She finds *material in unlikely places (bed sheets or her brother's old pants) or at the more traditional* Jo Ann Fabrics. Mulligan looks at it as a way to save money.

"I think sewing is fun," she said. "It's fun wearing something you've made. I like to be different."

A day in the life of a production assistant

By Liza Moody
Feature Co-editor

Boy, does Liza love movies. I was so excited when I got the opportunity to work on the set of a movie. I've been down to the set about four times. Unfortunately, because of some silly thing called "school," I can't spend more time pursuing this great career opportunity (I want to do something in film). Here's a look at a typical day at the set for me. I got there around 8:30 a.m. on a Saturday and met up with Christina Grozik, one of the set P.A.s (production assistants) and my best friend at the set. She helped me to figure out what was going on and introduced me to everyone (often more than once, but that's okay because these people have a lot of other things to remember besides my name). We walked over to the catering truck and grabbed some cinnamon rolls and bananas before starting work for the day. Along the way, we passed Angela Russo (the director's assistant and sister), line producer Scott Shiffman, Virginia Spaganio and Pete Lambros, who are in charge of craft services, a.k.a. food. Everyone was running around with their own separate mission, yet all part of one common goal.

Christina said the best part of her job was "the environment, being around so many creative people and the fast pace." The environment was a big change for me, and I wasn't too sure what to expect when I got there.

When I first arrived on a Friday in April, after waiting a few hours (these people are never on time) I was awarded my very own walkie talkie, complete with a headset. The radio lingo was pretty easy to decode. The key set P.A., Eddie Micallef, had an important job for me, so here's what he told me. "Eddie for Liza . . . " "Go for Liza" "What's your 20?" "I'm in the honey-wagon" "Go get my gloves from my car." "Copy that." Alright, so maybe the crew isn't depending on me for everything, but I'm working my way up. "20" means location and "honeywagon" is the term used for the trailers. So, yeah, the radios were pretty cool. Unfortunately, because of some strange scarcity of radios, mine was taken away from me only an hour or so after I received it. I was traumatized, but luckily, I got my walkie talkie back the next day.

Wrap time was around 9 p.m., and I thought I was going home. Nope, the call sheets need to go out. Call sheets are a big deal because they tell the crew what time they need to report for work tomorrow. Call time is always being pushed back, depending on wrap time. I helped Christina and Beth Dubber, location scout, distribute these sheets to the crew of roughly 100 people, all scrambling to clean up and get out of there. And there's a lot of stuff to clean up. Grip and electric crew handle the big stuff, but I went around and picked up the granola bar wrappers.

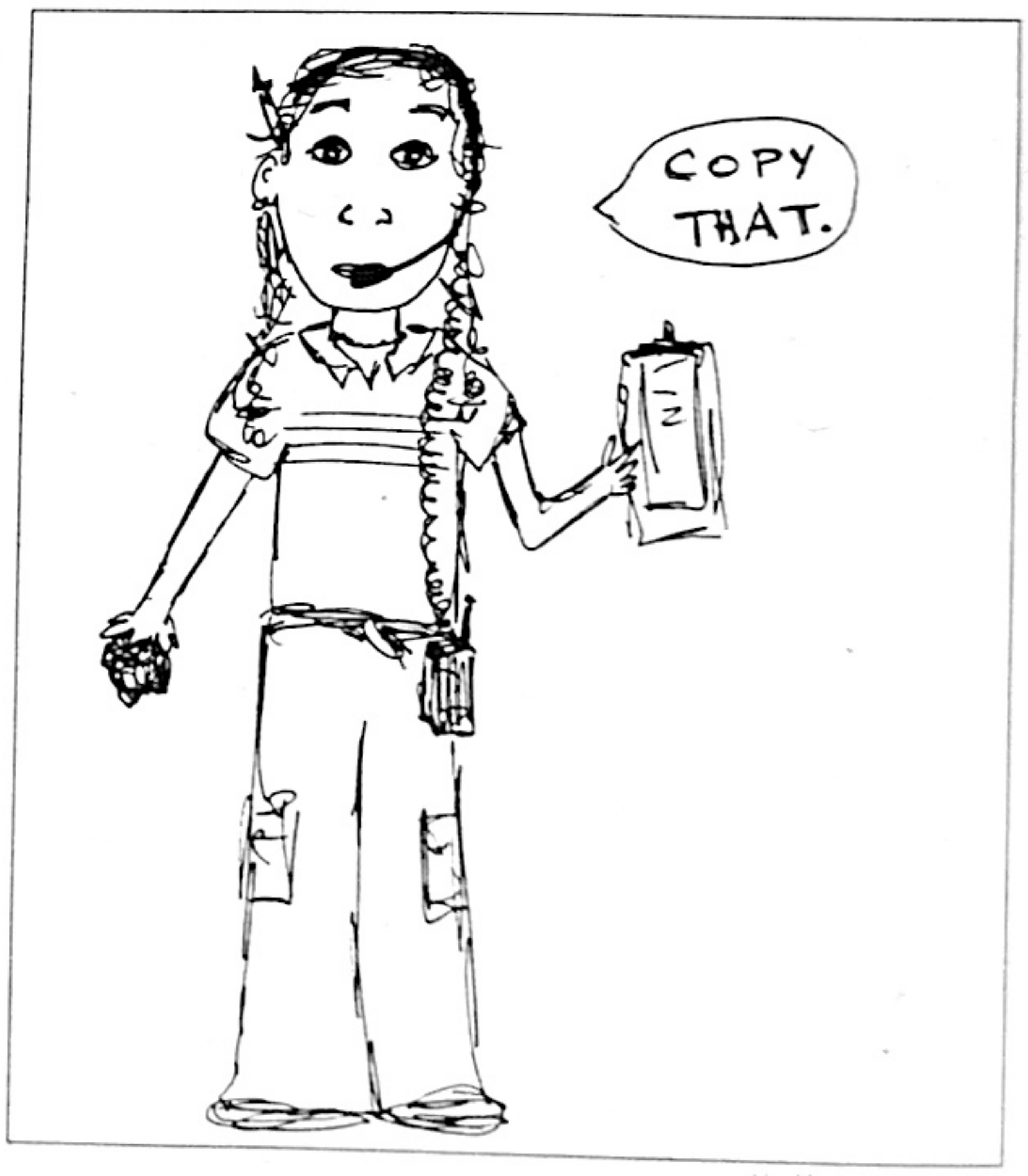
Anthony and Joe Russo, the directors, are from Cleveland. *Welcome to Collinwood* is their first big-budget movie. It's being produced by George Clooney, who has a minor part in the film, and Steven Soderbergh, the director of *Traffic* and *Erin Brockovich*.

So far, I've learned that people skills are essential when working in this business. Connections are made on every project and the more people you know, the better chance you have of getting more jobs. I talked to Suzanne Pate, assistant to the producer, about her job and opinions about the movie industry. She told me about the extras who were complaining yesterday after they discovered that movie-making was not as glamorous as they imagined.

"People don't understand the hard work that goes into [movies.] That's what makes movies so precious to people," Pate said. This is her first movie, after working on numerous TV programs, such as *Cybil, Roseanne* and *Don't Forget your Toothbrush*. "Every film or show you do, you make connections. You always can move up," she said. "Someone always believes in you."

This idea is really exciting for me, because if I want to make it in this business when I get older, connections like these will be invaluable. My job so far has involved sorting and delivering papers, filling out time cards and doing errands. Even though it doesn't sound very exciting, working with so many people is really interesting, especially the people involved in this project.

Some of the actors involved are George Clooney (*ER, O Brother, Where Art Thou?*), Gabrielle Union (*Bring it On, 10 Things I Hate about You*), William H. Macy (*Magnolia, Fargo*), Isaiah Washington (*Clockers, Love Jones*) and Sam Rockwell (*Charlie's Angels, Galaxy Quest*). While meeting some of these actors has been pretty cool, the real treat for me is observing the process of making a film. I knew it took a lot of work and a lot of people to make a movie, but it's a totally different perspective to be on the set and witness the process. It's not easy and the hours are long, but it's worth it.



Liza Moody/**The Shakerite**

Chelsea Whitman-Rush
Staff Reporter

A plan for the perfect prom

If you have been listening to any senior conversation since the first of February, chances are that somewhere in there was the mention of the 'P' word: PROM. By now, almost everyone attending the big night has gotten their date, bought a dress or rented a tux, made dinner reservations and set aside money for their date's bail. But no matter how much we prepare, prim and pay, there is always the impending fear of Murphy's Law. Want the perfect prom? Listen up.

First of all, take an afternoon to sit down and watch as many prom theme movies as possible. They are witty, seemingly flawless and overall perfect. Then ignore them all. There is no way that you are going to enjoy prom if you set yourself up for a night where you walk into prom and are immediately named prom queen as the Beach Boys serenade you and your date looks like George Clooney. Except for *There's Something About Mary*. Don't do that.

Please, please, puhh-leease take a good look at yourself dancing in the mirror before the big night. If you have chosen to watch *Grease* as one of your prom flicks, do so responsibly. Danny and Sandy are not the rule, they are the exception.

If you are eating at McDonalds, bring your own caviar. Unfortunately, I have heard that they have stopped serving it.

Instead of spending a ton of money on a dress or tux that might rip, look around your house for other solutions. Duct tape is durable, shiny and makes a great dress or tux. Besides, this way, you and your date can really match! And silver goes with any corsage!

Beware of falling toilet paper. I could imagine few things worse than stepping on a presumably harmless gym decoration and getting it stuck on the bottom of one your shoe. Trailing the paper ornamentation, you may find yourself the quick object of many smiles that you assume to be a result of your beautiful dress and flawless hair. Don't be fooled.

Prom is fast approaching. Make sure you take extra precautions and expect the unexpected. (P.S. Just kidding about the McDonalds thing. I am sure they serve caviar.)

Not just flowers and chocolates anymore

A fool-proof guide to buying the perfect Mother's Day gift

By Lauren Gardner
Staff Reporter

Mother's Day is an age-old tradition. So old, in fact, that some people have run out of gift ideas for their mothers.

"I don't know yet what I'm going to do for my mother . . . it's hard to find something for my mom," freshman Janell Sterrett said.

The Microsoft Network is one company that seems to have recognized the complexities of selecting the perfect Mother's Day gift. Their website allows users to specify their budget, the type of gift they're looking for (entertainment, flowers, beauty, etc.) as well as the type of mother they are shopping for (hip and stylish moms, career moms, garden moms, sporty moms, etc.). And as if that is not enough direction for the bewildered shopper, MSN also offers a Gift Concierge Service, where users can talk one-on-one with a live gift specialist, who is sure to help anyone find the perfect gift for his mother. They've even gone as far as to provide users with a list of "Mom's Top 5 Wishes," which says that mothers generally want a better kitchen, a weekend getaway, no more stress, mom-style music and a romantic dinner.

Glamour Magazine is another company that has clued in on the struggle of finding the perfect Mother's Day gift. As part of their Mother's Day Guide in this month's edition, executive fashion director Suze Yalof Schwartz picked the top 10 items she thought mothers would most appreciate this year. Schwartz's list included several classic presents, such as a simple bouquet of bright colored tulips or a breakfast in bed gift set. However, she also selected many new and innovative gift ideas, such as a spa-in-a-box kit or a Tae Bo bag and glove combo or even a massaging foot spa.

In our 21st century commercialized world, even the traditional gifts are no longer simple. Stores now offer a wide flower and chocolate selection for Mother's Day.

"For Mother's Day, our famous chocolate that we hand-make is a very big seller, although the 1 lb. assorted chocolate box is probably the most popular, because it has a little bit of everything," said Mrs. Draeger of Draeger's Chocolates on Van Aken. (She declined to give her first name) "They are very practical gifts. They sell for $16."

Sophomore Julia Simon also favors a Mother's Day gift based on practicality. "I got my mom flowers, which was relatively cheap and still made her really happy," she said.

However, if neither traditional nor Glamour-magazine suggestions lead you to the perfect gift, creativity is a third option that can combine sensible spending and innovative ideas.

"I make breakfast in bed for my mom," sophomore Pamela Wiznitzer said. "I also make a coupon book of things I'll do for her."

Junior Mike Koch also makes creative gifts for Mother's Day, however his approach is different from Wiznitzer's.

"I've done coupon books before, but those never work. The trick is to put an expiration date on them. This year, I'm just going to make her a CD," he said.

Fortunately, retailers realize that finding Mother's Day presents can be quite a task. "Our busiest day will definitely be the Saturday before Mother's Day. We will probably sell lots of truffles and assortment boxes to last minute shoppers," Draeger said.

Terry of Terry's Flowers on Pearl Rd. sees last minute shoppers looking for the perfect gift every year. "Usually they are just looking for anything they can get their hands on," he said. "It's usually the men, they are very last minute shoppers. But that's why we have plants and arrangements ready that they can just grab and go."

Even if none of these suggestions gives any insight on the perfect Mother's Day gift, there is still hope.

"I completely forgot Mother's Day once, but I just had to pretend I remembered. So, I made a quick card out of construction paper and it was fine," freshman Athena Nimmers said.

What's the best Mother's Day gift you've given?

DEBORAH BEIM

FRESHMAN

"When I was seven I took my mom to a classical music concert."

TODD TORRENCE

TEACHER

"My son was born on Mother's Day, and that was the best present for my wife."

LAUREN CHERRY

SENIOR

"Last year I got her *Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul* and some perfume she liked."

Where have all the seniors gone?

By Liz Campbell
Staff Reporter

The chair once occupied by the senior you shared breakfast with each morning in Choir is suddenly empty. Days go by, and you are starting to miss the sweet cinnamon bagel. The mystery continues to grow until one day you turn on the TV, and the breakfast no-show is on the news!

Senior project time has rolled around, and the opportunity to escape school for a month is snatched up by many. Besides being a respite from school, senior projects allow students to experience a career or help communities locally, nationally or internationally.

Math teacher Walter Slovikovski is senior project coordinator. For several years before Slovikovski's tenure, social studies teacher T. Baird Wiehe ran the projects. Both Slovikovski and Wiehe said that over the years the creativity of senior projects has dwindled.

Slovikovski said that in his experience most students choose to shadow professionals such as lawyers or teachers.

Wiehe remembered that finding the difference between a natural tan and a tanning salon tan was a project rejected while he was in charge.

"Murals are the greatest things done," Wiehe said, of senior projects.

Among this year's interesting senior projects is the proposed establishment of a school radio station by Jessica Blanton, Sarah Hexter, Greg Hurst and Katie Wamsley.

Aaron Greenspan is planning to send used computers to Jamaica, Brazil and schools for the learning disabled.

"I'm glad the school gives us an opportunity to do something creative for the last month of school instead of sitting anxiously in the classroom," Greenspan said.

Best Senior Projects

- Scuba diving in Catalina and then, because of excellent ability to identify marine life, becoming a tour guide there
- Going to Hong Kong to develop Chinese language skills and to work with businesses/banks there
- Building and flying an airplane
- Traveling from South Carolina to Ontario, Canada to watch bird migration patterns
- Traveling across the country in an old-fashioned milk truck to Banff National Park
- Working with professors at CWRU to develop solar powered electricity for African nations

Shaker's halls are bare! Everyone's at the Art Fair!

•With a kissing booth , jazz music, tie dye and $2 ribs the Art Fair was an artistic success

By Sara Reichstein
A&E Co-editor

As unexcused absences increased by the minute, Leah Wolff became an entrepreneurial, lemonade-ing success. Wolff and other art students designed carnival-like stands to sell a variety of products for the first ever art fair April 27.

"The art fair was a lot of fun, and everyone worked hard on their stands," Wolff said. "The weather was great. Just being down there and socializing was just awesome. It was really laid back and fun."

The art fair, titled "Celebration of Jazz," was held in the courtyard, where the 16'x16' sidewalk plots featured art students' chalk representations of three jazz artists: Romare Beardon, Moe Brooker and former Shaker art teacher Malcolm Brown.

"These jazz artists are ones that have been influenced by jazz music," said art teacher and art fair coordinator Daniel Whitely. "I wanted to show the student body what they're all about. The courtyard is a festive place where everyone can see the work in progress."

Along with the sidewalk drawings, AP art portfolio students designed their own individual sculptural stands. Based on the childhood memory of a lemonade stand, the students chose something to sell and then designed a logo, a structure, accessories and a common color theme. In addition to the lemonade stand, the courtyard featured a kissing booth and stands selling smoothies, tie-dye clothing and ribs.

Other students displayed individual works on the smaller sidewalk squares.

"Basically, I designed this piece to agree with the jazzy theme of the art in the courtyard. I have good people helping me out. I was inspired to do this by the musical influence of the artists' pieces," junior Dave Hausman said of his abstract chalk design.

As another aspect of the art fair, the ceramics room featured works by Susan Weiner's and Jody Trostler's students. The ceramics festival has been in existence for a number of years, however this is the first year for the courtyard addition.

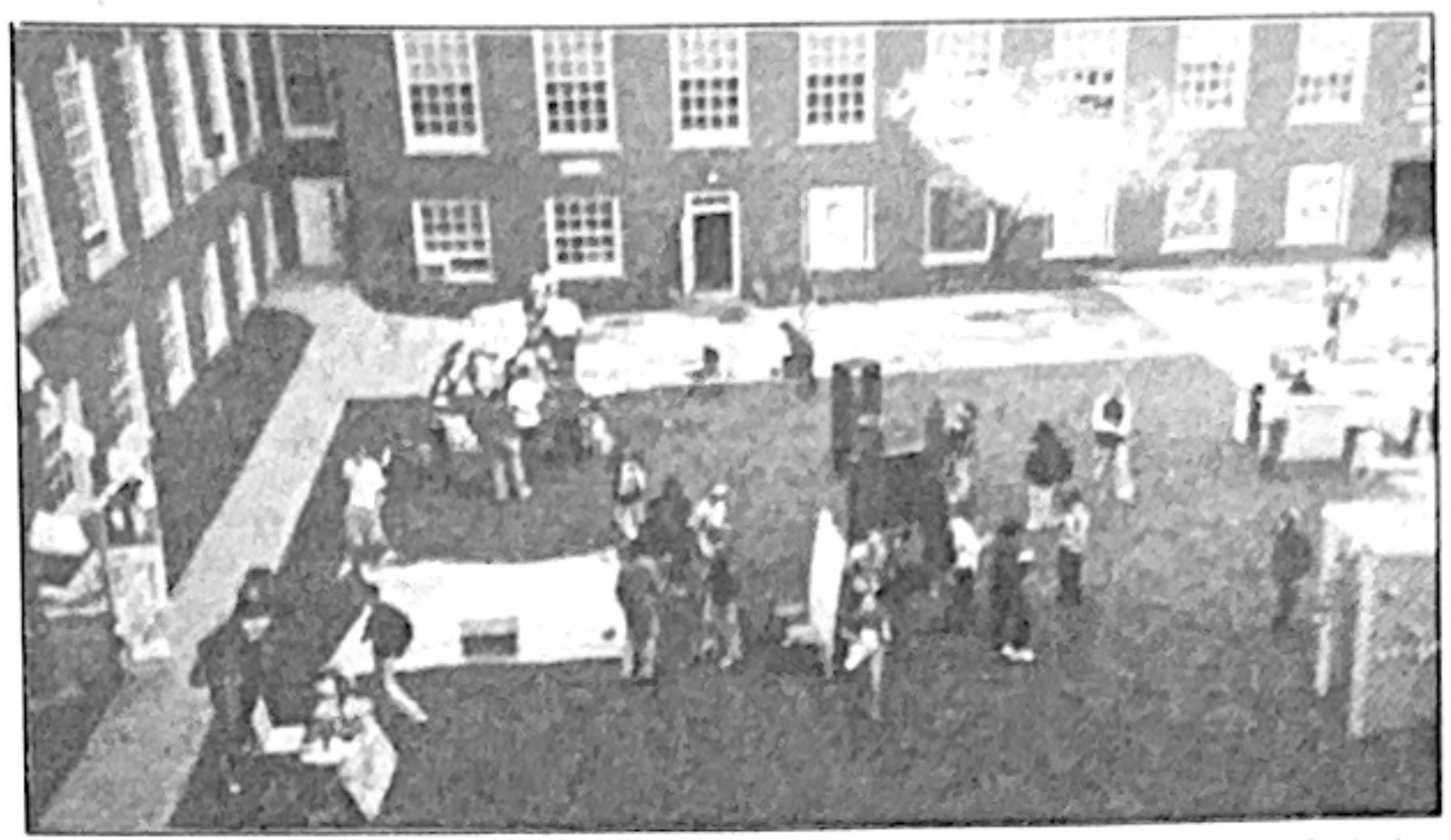
"It was great how much people put into it and how they were able to make their money back while missing classes," Wolff said.

All the effort really paid off, and not only monetarily. Most students were pleased that the art fair went on, especially in the courtyard where they could see it from their classes and, possibly, go down and see it.

"I thought it was good to have," said sophomore Robert Hamilton. "The stands were nice and the people really worked hard on the stands. All in all, it was good."

Although Whitely said a few faculty members complained about the disruption, students thought the fair was great and hope it will continue for years.

"They should have more art fairs," Hamilton said, "because there are a lot of talented people in the school. It'll give them a chance to show off their art work."



Armine Thompson/The Shakerite

The art fair in the courtyard was a huge success, attracting many curios students. At right, Dirty Ernie's, one of many stands prepared by art students for the art fair, sold lots of ribs to hungry costumers.

Armine Thompson/The Shakerite

Abby Hexter
Staff Reporter

Boston Public; are you for real?

Bomb threats, hostage situations, gang episodes, student-teacher affairs; these are things normal public schools deal with everyday, right? Hardly! However, this is the distorted image that Fox's drama series *Boston Public* portrays every Monday night.

Obviously, a TV show about a high school needs to be spiced up a little, as nobody wants to watch kids walking down the halls or sitting in class. And yes, the entertainment value of the show is undeniable -- any student would want to see a bomb squad conducting a lock down one morning.

Realistically, the show seems to be directed to adults who want to look back on their high school days and complain about how unruly children have become since they were teenagers themselves.

Boston Public focuses on the principal, assistant principal and a few teachers who are, coincidentally, mostly young and beautiful and equipped with multi-octave gospel singing voices just in case they need to sing at a student's funeral.

All the teachers are friends and date each other, giving young viewers the idea that every high school operates similarly. I find it scary to think that my teachers hang out on the weekends, not to mention date.

The teachers seem to only care about students when they're in trouble, instead of planning creative lessons to reach students bored by biology.

Granted, these characters are dealing with many obstacles that go along with teaching high school, such as students bringing guns to school, only at Boston Public, many tragedies like these happen within about three weeks. Something is wrong with this scenario. Although things like this do happen, they don't happen within such a short period of time, at the same place and to the same people.

The fact that the show is entertaining is undeniable. I found myself on the edge of my seat when a student was about commit suicide and the principal was trying to talk him out of it. Although this shock entertainment gets the ratings that the show needs to keep going, it does not excuse the unrealistic portrayal of high school.

Justine Watanabe ends her high school art career with a bang

-This purple-haired girl practically swept at the Regional Art Competition this year

By Andy Cameron
Staff Reporter

Justine Watanabe has so much creativity she's let it get to her head.

Over the last few months, Watanabe has been seen styling hair colors ranging from red to purple to blond.

This colorful senior has been taking art classes for four years here at the high school, but has been into drawing all of her life. When Watanabe came to the high school she began painting.

"I started painting my sophomore year with [retired art teacher Malcom] Brown," said Watanabe.

But Watanabe's artistic interests range beyond painting, drawing and having cool hair; she also makes clothes.

"I've only done a few pieces: a pair of jeans, a tank top, a shirt I painted and a purse I made for a friend," said Watanabe. "I do it because it's fun to do."

She learned fashion design at a pre-college summer program at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn last summer.

Watanabe's art has received acclaim beyond the halls of Shaker. This year she advanced to the Regional Art competition where she won a silver key, a gold key and an honorable mention for two pastels and one charcoal drawing.

This year Watanabe is taking design drawing and AP art portfolio, both taught by Daniel Whitely.

Whitely sees Watanabe's strengths in drawing figure and self-portraits.

"I would say that her best pieces are her self-portraits because they are very touching and very reflective of her personality," Whitely said.

Whitely added that Watanabe is a persistent student, who is continually challenging her artistic ability.

Watanabe's parents are also proud of her artistic accomplishments.

"She has great taste, a great sense of color, and she isn't afraid to try different things," said her father, Ronald Watanabe.

In addition to her art, Watanabe also excels as a year round athlete. She participates on the track team, cross country team and the swim team.

a&e raider of THE MONTH

"She's really good at track, she beats me every time we run the mile," said Hilary Martinez, a junior.

With the arts and athletics, Watanabe has still managed to make the honor role every year. Although usually able to manage her time, Watanabe admits that, "My sports do interfere with my artwork occasionally."

But sometimes athletics have helped Watanabe's artistic endeavors. It is her involvement on the swim team which partly explains her purple hair.

"It was originally bleached blond," said Watanabe. "But it would fade away from the swimming so I had to put a semi-permanent color in and I chose purple."

Armine Thompson/The Shakerite

Senior Justine Watanabe assembles a collage for her ninth period design and drawing class. Along with design and drawing, Watanabe is also enrolled in AP Art Portfolio and mixed media classes.

As her graduation date approaches Watanabe reflected on her highschool career. She said that she will miss Shaker's art department but she foresees it becoming even stronger in the future.

"I think the art department at Shaker is good but it will be better next year because a new teacher will be coming in and Mr. Whitely will be doing more" she said.

Although Watanabe is undecided as to which college she will attend, there is no question in her mind as to the career she will pursue.

"I really want to be a fashion designer," Watanabe said.

It's a rap! Shaker students have been freestyling between classes

• Rather than just walking from class to class, students have been impressing peers with their rapping ability

By Jeff Greenwald
Staff Reporter

Most people walk through the halls between classes unaware of what is going on outside their own conversation. A little eavesdropping, however, reveals that not all the talk is conversational. Some of it is rap.

Since the start of the school year a group of students has gathered before school, between classes and after school in order to rap.

"It started when everyone was doing poetry," junior Sean Best said.

Best said that people started to read the poetry in the halls and that afterward they would just continue on and start rapping. People realized what was going on and began to come over and listen. Eventually a crowd would be formed of anywhere from just two friends to more than 10 people.

"The lyrics can be about anything — money, females, school," said freshman Ben Haber, who often raps with the group. The lyrics are all original, and are usually improvisational. The group also tries not to use too much inappropriate language so they can keep a low profile with teachers.

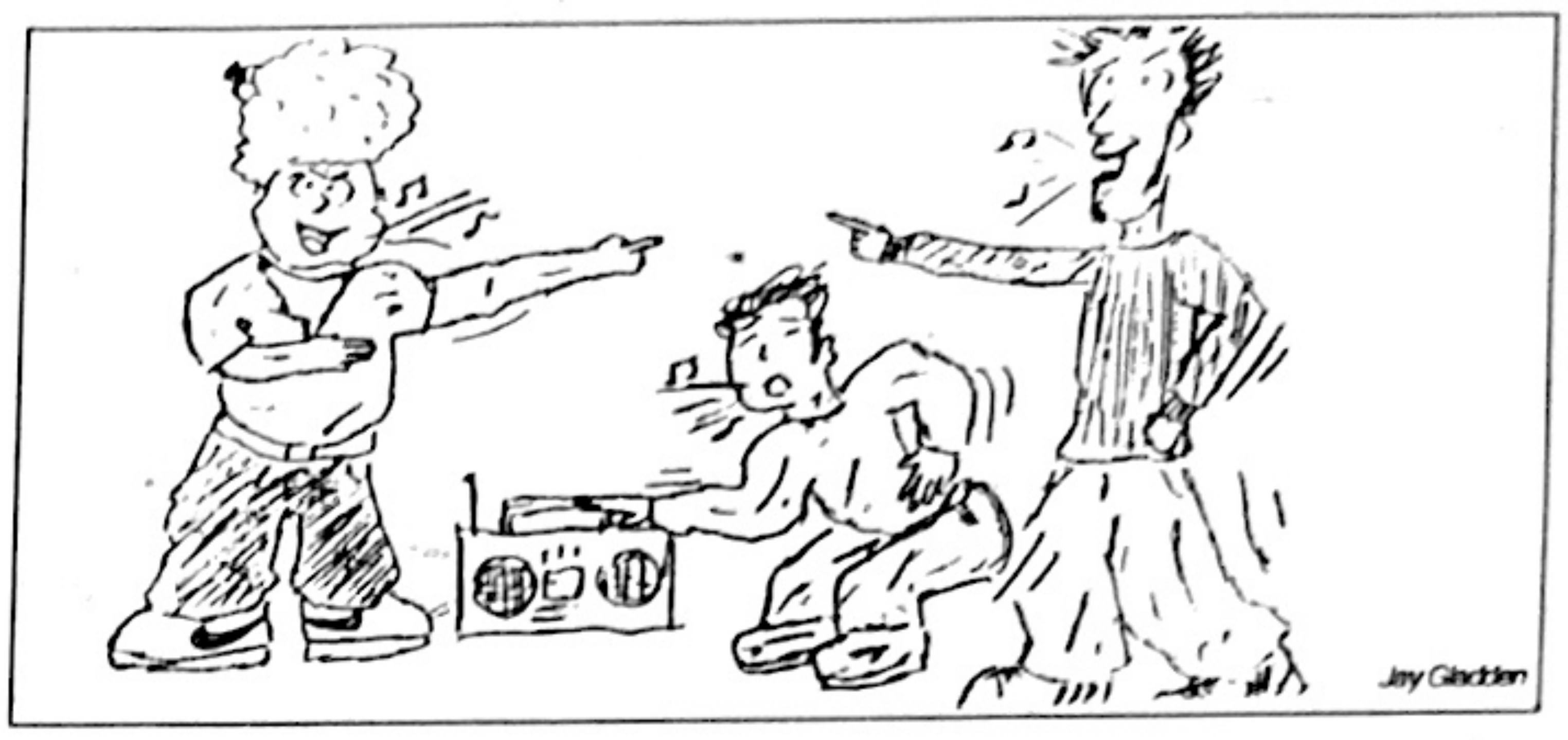
Here's a rap:
I got cruel intentions
Longer than girls' extensions
My mind expansion
You couldn't get with it
I got the game on lock
I can't be stopped
-Sean Best, junior

Best, who won third place at the Poetry Slam Contest at Shaker Heights Library, performed his flow in Margaret Washington's English class.

"It's always good to manipulate language," Washington said. "I think it's a kind of sport for the kids."

However, Washington did strongly denounce the profanity in the rapping and she has told students to "watch the language" when she has heard it in the halls.

"I don't agree with the language used . . . [and] don't feel everyone should have to listen to it," she said. Nevertheless Washington likes seeing students interested in using language.



The rapping gets started in any number of ways.

"Someone would just start up a beat and someone else would start rapping," Haber said.

Best added that other times a word might be thrown out, such as refrigerator, and a person has to rap using that word for as long as they can.

"The group truly can rap anywhere. It is not something you need anything but your voice for. You might think of something while you are walking then keep walking and start freestyling off the top of your head," Best said.

Most people do it because they think it's fun adding some excitement to the school day. However, many have serious aspirations of becoming a rapper.

"Some people say, 'Yeah, it would be great,' but it is gonna take a long time to get there," Haber said.

Often a kind of competition may start between two kids to see who has the best skills. Although these competitions are friendly, people try hard.

"Of you want to be a rapper you have to be the best in the school before the best in the nation," Haber explained.

The group of kids encourages people from any grade to rap with them. "People try it out. If they are good they keep doing it. If they can't they just stand around and listen," Haber said.

Shaker wins big at local fashion show

•12 Shaker students win $500 at the Battle of the Best Fashion Showcase 2001

By Meryl Kramer
A&E Co-editor

While some in our high school community complain that the halls have turned into a fashion show, other Shaker students save their real style and moves for the cat walk.

On April 27, at the Battle of the Best Fashion Showcase 2001 sponsored by the Wild Out Entertainment company, Shaker pulled off a triumphant win over John Hay High School and Cleveland Heights High School with a final score of 44 out of 40 possible points. Each of the four judges were so impressed by Shaker's showcase that they awarded them an 11 on a scale of 10.

"Cleveland Heights went on first and did a good job. The theme of their fashion show was the dream of being Barbies," said junior Anna Crosby, who was one of the three student coordinators of Shaker's team. Cleveland Heights' final score was 37 out of 40.

"John Hay High School went on second and did a mascarade scene dressed in all white," said Crosby. Many Shaker and Cleveland Heights students were angered when John Hay was given a perfect score because they felt that although they had great choreography, John Hay's showcase dealt minimally with fashion.

"That was just garbage because they paid for a choreographer and they had only one outfit the whole time, it was supposed to be a fashion show not a dance show," said Senior Curtis Cheney.

> ***"When we saw their scores it made us want to be 100 percent better, which paid off because we were."***
>
> **TIARA PERRY**
> junior

Shaker, however, kept their cool until they performed and showed the judges a true fashion showcase. Junior Tiara Perry, another student coordinator, said, "When we saw their scores it made us want to be 100 percent better, which paid off because we were."

Perry, Crosby and fellow junior Phoebe Lee led Shaker's team to victory with a phenomenal showcase.

Cortesy of Holloway family

Danielle Deberry, Anna Crosby, Tonya Love, Tiara Perry and Gwen Chambers (kneeling) stand tall with their check from Wild Out Entertainment after their victory over Cleveland Heights High School and John Hay High School.

"We went out last and we made outfits out of tape, playing cards, cotton balls and other various items. We also did a scene portraying the seven deadly sins. We won $500.00 and gift certificates to Next Urban Gear," said Crosby.

The three juniors, with minimal help from any adult, led the twelve person team, with the help of Brandon Lewis who helped with coordinating the males. They heard of the show from Wild Out Entertainment's manager, Thad Franklin.

Despite a few quarrels, the night was a total success.

Sophomore Paul Sadler said, "Shaker had great outfits and great music and had the biggest turn out of all the schools."

For upcoming events sponsored by Wild Out Entertainment go to wildoutentertainment.com

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Women's lacrosse keeps the streak alive

• Seven undefeated seasons are attributed to attitude, ability and coaching

By Jenny Heisler
Co-editor in chief

Jenny Heisler/ **The Shakerite**

Junior Claire Dietrich takes on freshman Elizabeth Haas in practice.

During pre-season, many teams set their sights on having an undefeated record. That feat, unfortunately, is much easier said than done.

Yet for the past eight straight seasons, attaining that goal has become commonplace to Shaker's women's lacrosse team. Since 1994, the team has finished the regular season undefeated in the league.

> ***"We are probably Shaker's best team sport."***
>
> CLAIRE DIETRICH
> junior

This is undoubtedly something to be proud of, and yet *The Plain Dealer*'s coverage of women's lacrosse is rarely more than a box score placed in the corner of a sports page.

"We should get more press," said freshman Ashley Wood. "It's kind of annoying that we are neglected."

The team has many other accomplishments to boast about. In 1999, the girls made it to the finals of the Midwest Tournament, finishing runner-up to Sewickley of Sewickley, PA. In 2000, the team lost in sudden death overtime at the Ohio women's lacrosse state championship to Columbus Academy. Also, the roster annually includes Raiders that have earned All-Ohio and All-American recognition, and each year several Raiders go on to play Division I lacrosse in college.

Head coach Liz Wilson believes that there is a correlation between press coverage and state championship performances.

> ***"We should get more press."***
>
> ASHLEY WOOD
> freshman

"One of the reasons why we don't do as well is probably because we aren't recognized in the papers," she said. "It would be nice if a parent would step up and try to take some time to give us coverage, because these girls really deserve it."

Junior Claire Dietrich agrees.

"It's ridiculous that we are not getting recognized. We are probably Shaker's best team sport," she said.

With the season coming to a close, the team is heading into the district tournament seeded first, with the hopes of an appearance in the state tournament May 18-19 in Wooster, OH. With or without press coverage, they will have to work hard to capture the title—Columbus Academy is a potential opponent in the state finals. Shaker's lone non-league loss this year came to Academy, 12-4, in the first rematch between the two 2000 state finalists.

Wanna get some action?

• Post- season play begins for spring sports

Baseball- 5/9, Mentor (H)
Softball- 5/9, Mentor (H)
Women's Track- 5/8, 5/10 @ Lakewood (LEL Championships)
Men's Tennis- 5/10, Sectionals, TBA
Men's Lacrosse- 5/10, @ Mentor
Men's Track- 5/10,@Lakewood (LEL Championships)
Women's Lacrosse- 5/8- 5/10, Districts, TBA
Baseball- 5/11, Cleveland Heights
Softball- 5/11, @ Cleveland Heights
Men's Lacrosse- 5/15, Walsh Jesuit
Women's Lacrosse- 5/12, District Finals TBA
Women's and Men's Track- 5/16, 5/19, Districts @Kent
Men's Tennis- 5/17, 5/19, Districts TBA
Women's Lacrosse- 5/18 5/19, State Finals@ Wooster
Men's Lacrosse- 5/21, State Tournament, TBA
Baseball- 5/18, St. Edwards

Falkner, Jeffries have the right stuff

• Senior multi-sport athletes shine on the field and on the track this spring

Name: Matt Falkner
Sport: Lacrosse
Position: Midfield
Year: Senior

Teammate's comment: "Matt loves to play the game. The leadership he shows as a captain is an example of his abilities as a team player." - Patrick Duffy, junior

Name: Sheena Jeffries
Sport: Track
Event: 100 Open, 4x100 relay, 4x200 relay, long jump
Year: Senior

Teammate's Comment: "Sheena is persistent, and always runs hard even if she's injured. She never gives excuses, she just does it." - Imani Farley, junior

Armine Thompson/**The Shakerite**

Matt Falkner poses at lacrosse practice.

Personal: Falkner will play lacrosse next year for Washington College in Maryland. He also plays hockey and golf.

Personal: Jeffries has run since the tenth grade, and considers Dalanda Jackson and Kim Harris some of her track mentors. "I really love to run," she said.

File Photo

Sheena Jeffries gears up for a meet.

Sports Briefs

• Junior football standout Robert Price has committed to Penn State University for the 2002-2003 school year. Price, a Raider tackle, has been involved with Shaker's program for three years, and will continue playing both offensive and defensive lines next season. As a 6-2, 290 lb. junior, Price earned all county, district and All-LEL honors last season. Price is also a MAC scholar.

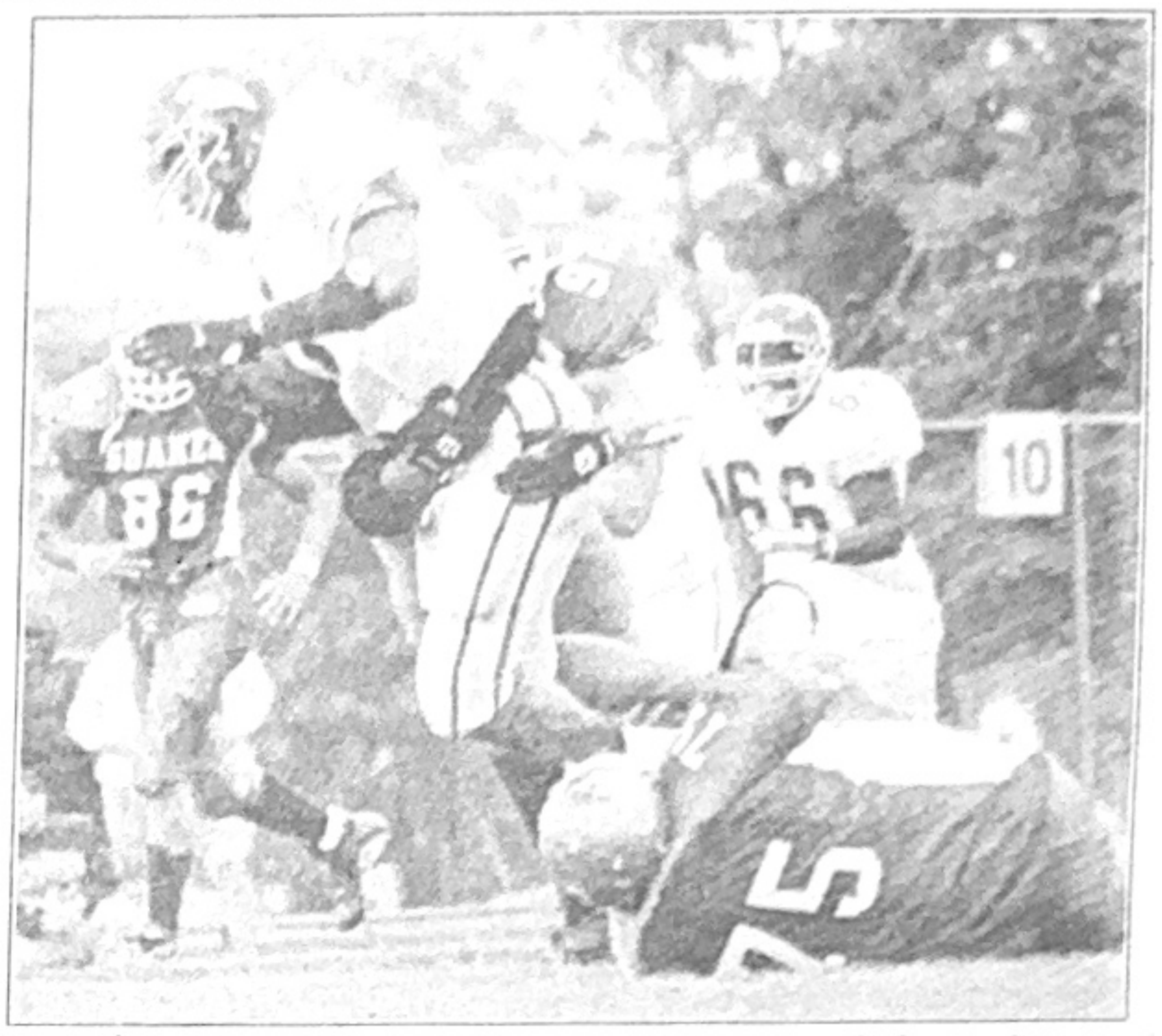
• Earlier this month Nate Clements, former Shaker Heights varsity starting quarterback and cornerback, was the 21st overall pick in the NFL draft. He was selected by the Buffalo Bills and will more than likely see significant playing time next year.

• The baseball team is currently 10-5 and 6-3 in the LEL. For the first time in head coach Charles Longo's career, the Raiders have defeated the Euclid Panthers twice in the same season. The first win against the Panthers came at home and gave coach Longo his 200th career win as Shaker's varsity baseball team head coach. The Raiders are currently second in the LEL and will play their first playoff game at home tomorrow. The second win was a 4-0 victory at Euclid.

Aggression on and off the field

• Do athletes know when to turn off their game time attitude? Coaches, students speak out

By Steve Kawalek
Staff reporter



File Photo/**The Shakerite**

Frightening is the word people use when they hear the names of NFL players Rae Carruth, Ray Lewis, and most recently Jeremiah Pharms, the Cleveland Browns fifth round draft pick. But the NFL is not the only place where violence and athleticism go hand-in-hand. Shaker's athletic department includes many and often violent contact sports. Are these athletes also feared because they participate in a violent sport?

Imagine being trapped in the packed high school hallways, trying to get to your next class. You are sick of being trapped behind slow-moving people, and suddenly you get an urge to plow your way through the masses of students with all the force your body can muster. Yet, you quickly come to your senses and realize that pushing other people is socially unacceptable.

"Things that happen on the field have nothing to do with altercations off the field."

ELLIOT LYONS
junior

How can a student-athlete differentiate between aggression needed to demonstrate on the field and the aggression permitted when they come under attack in the real world?

After the school day ends, athletes prepare for their afternoon practices and that's when the action begins. During these practices, players get messages that contradict their teachers' typical discourse on proper and scholarly conduct. During the school day security personnel throw out phrases such as "Keep your hands to yourself," whereas in athletics, coaches urge students to "hit," "tackle" and "check." Can athletes make a distinction between the rough sports they are involved in and the fights that happen off of the field?

"Things that happen on the field don't have anything to do with the altercations that may happen off the field. The violence is caused by the person and not the sport that he/she participated in," said Shaker hockey right-wing Elliot Lyons, a junior.

On the other end of the spectrum, just a couple of weeks ago a Shaker Heights High School student, who is not an athlete, was a victim of an athlete who could not control himself. The alleged assailant is a varsity wrestler at Orange High School who got in a verbal altercation that ended in violence. The Shaker student suffered injuries serious enough to require treatment by paramedics. Does that act of violence correlate to the student's participation in an aggressive sport such as wrestling?

Head coach Dave Sedmak thinks it's all about the individual.

"A violent act off the field is a result of the individual's lack of self control. A lack of self control is simply a lack of self-discipline. We have a lot less self -discipline today in all facets of society than ever before. It's this lack of discipline that leads to the violence. It's not aggressive sports that cause violence," said Sedmak.

Hockey player Dan Evans cites the media as one of the causes of violence in society. "I think that TV brings out as much violence as sports," said Evans, a freshman and forward on the hockey team.

Based on his experience in sports psychology, Dr. David Udelf said that the violence that happens on the street is not related to the intense contact that is present in rough sports today. "It really comes down to the individual and their ability to distinguish between situations. Each individual either has an ability to manage their emotional state or they do not. I don't believe that the sport itself induces inappropriate behavior or violence. It's more a function of the person themselves."

Betley retires after 31 years of coaching

• Field hockey coach and former athletic director to leave Shaker after this school year

By Kirsten Whitehouse
Staff reporter

She's packing up, clearing out and wrapping up 31 dedicated years at Shaker. It's time to say goodbye to Linda Betley.

Yes, you heard right. It's sad but true, head of the physical education department, Betley is retiring from the high school this year.

From teaching, to coaching, to helping students with their independent studies, these past 31 years Betley has dedicated herself to Shaker students.

But now, Betley has decided it's time to start doing things for herself.

"I think I've given my gallon and a half," said Betley. "I want to travel, relax and get my golfing back to what it was."

Betley grew up in the Cleveland area, and attended Brush High School. She then went on and graduated from Kent State, with majors in health and physical education. From there she applied as a teacher at Shaker, and has been here ever since.

And the students love her.

"Ms. Betley has a great sense of humor, and she's easy to talk to," said Erica Neal, a junior who has Betley as a physical education teacher. "She's just an all around nice person."

"She's a wonderful person who cares for her students and the school. It's a great loss that she's leaving, but I am sure she will go on and do wonderful things outside of Shaker," said Sara Barnett, a sophomore.

It's clear that Betley's love for her students has paid off with a wealth of satisfaction, much of which has come from coaching field hockey. Betley explained that her love for field hockey started in high school, and continued on through college.

"The sports have changed a lot of the past 31 years. At first I coached four different sports: field hockey, volleyball, track and basketball," said Betley, with a hint of exhaustion in her voice. "But I've loved every minute of it."

In 1973, Betley turned over the other three sports and became head coach of the girls varsity field hockey team. She led the team to states and districts 10 out of her 27 years of coaching.

Chelsea Whitman-Rush/**The Shakerite**

Shaker veteran Linda Betley sits at her desk prior to her retirement.

"I played field hockey and saw the dedication and determination she had for the team," said junior Alice Tussel. "She's an awesome coach and an awesome person."

Students also appreciate Betley for her work on independent studies.

"I worked with Betley for my independent study for baseball and she was very supportive and helpful. I'm glad I had the opportunity to work with her," said junior Mike Lewis.

In addition to the students, Shaker faculty has tremendous respect for Betley.

"She's an outstanding department head, very well organized and knowledgeable," said physical education teacher Susan Brown. "She always wants what is best for her students. She's an excellent teacher, and she will be missed greatly."

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SPORTS

Sports Briefs

Junior tackle Robert Price commits to Penn State

SPORTS, page 15

By **Eric Edelsberg**
Sports Co-editor

Mario's back- Jordan too?

Mario Lemieux came back and is succeeding, so why can't Mike?

Probably the greatest basketball player of all time and arguably the greatest athlete of all time, Michael Jordan is rumored to be considering an NBA comeback, and critics abound.

But if Lemieux can do it, why can't M.J.? He already came back once and led the Chicago Bulls to another title. Granted, this time would be different, playing with the Washington Wizards and not having Scottie Pippen by his side, but that doesn't mean it can't be done.

Michael Jordan might not be in the same shape that he was three years ago, but Mario Lemieux is not at peak fitness either, and he is still playing unbelievable hockey. True, Michael Jordan will not be able to play 48 minutes a game for a full season, but the addition of Michael to the Wizards roster would bring the spotlight to both the team and the NBA.

The drastic ratings drop the NBA has felt this year has left the league hoping for Jordan's return. Anti-Semitic comments made recently by New York Knicks players Allan Houston and Charlie Ward, as well as the Kobe Bryant-Shaquille O'Neal argument over who is going to be the queen bee has left the NBA desperately needing a star who is a good guy. Jordan is that guy. He already captured the world's attention for nearly a decade; it wouldn't take him long to return to that status.

To top it off, Jordan has not yet reached his 40th birthday. NBA standouts John Stockton and Karl Malone are almost that old, and Jordan is better than both of them. And though he has been out of the NBA for a couple of years, if M.J. puts his mind to it he will – for the third time in his career – will be a force to be reckoned with.

If you are a true NBA fan, no doubt you look forward to a Vince Carter v. Michael Jordan matchup and a Jordan/Allan Iverson duel. Throw Kobe Bryant into that mix, and NBA ratings would skyrocket.

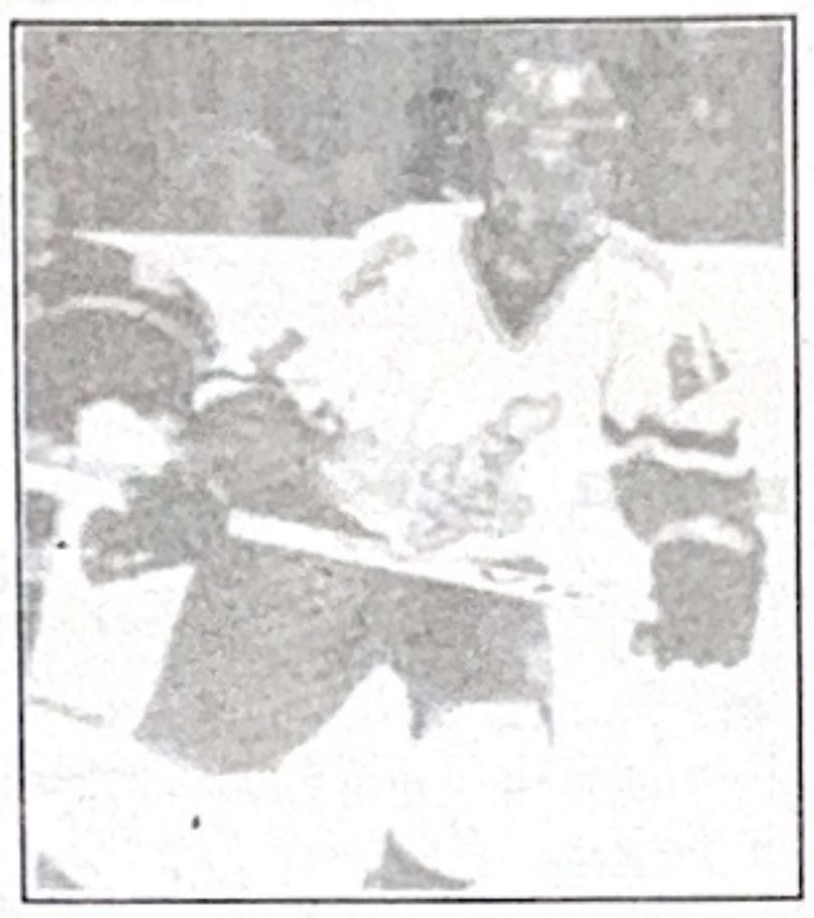
Michael Jordan might not be the most dominant player in the NBA if he comes back, but he would add to the excitement of the game and he would still be one of the best players in the league.

The ABC's of Shaker sports

• Our final farewell to the 2000-2001 sports season- way to go Raiders!

By **Marianne Cronin and Eric Edelsberg**
Sports Co-editors

- Ass kickin'! Shaker did a lot of that this year.
- Bagels -- undoubtedly our favorite part of Shaker tennis since Borko left.



File Photo/ The Shakerite

- Cleveland Heights -- our ultimate rivals.
- Defense -- the toughest job around, right football?
- Ekeberg and Greenwald -- our replacements next year (we hope you will be as accurate as we were. . .)
- Fans and superfans: your cheers will forever ring in our ears!
- Golf -- hey girls, where are your clubs?
- Hockey -- 2001 state champs. Yesss!

File Photo/ The Shakerite

- Icin' down in Bob's bucket -- brrrrr!
- Junior varsity -- the next generation of Raider stars.
- Keepers. Those self-sacrificing goalies earned this well-deserved shout-out.
- Lax -- isn't an acronym, the sport is lacrosse.
- Miracles -- you just gotta believe.
- Numbers -- jersey superstition is for real.
- Overtime games -- a true Raider always stays 'til the end.
- Pride -- the strength of the red and white!
- Qualifiers -- district and state.
- RAIDERS! 'Nuff said.

File Photo/ The Shakerite

- Seniors, who lead our teams on the court and field.
- Tennis -- another title on the way?
- Upsets -- hey Padua, that one's for you!
- Victory -- there's just nothing like it.
- Wonson -- Bob knows golf, too.
- X- country. Still going . . . nothing outlasts these energizers.
- Yahtzee! The slang term for a homerun.
- Zebra -- hey refs, when we're gone, *maybe* you'll get some slack . . .

BOB'S THE MAN

Athletic trainer Bob Collins, aka Trainer Bob, was named Ohio Trainer of the Year for 2000. Collins, who assists many of Shaker's athletes and teams, has been at Shaker for almost a decade.

Marianne Cronin

Chelsea Whitman-Rush/ The Shakerite